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THE INDEPENDED

IN THIS SECTION United's Cup comeback

11 PAGES OF SPORT



As dealing rooms across the world are preparing for the launch of the euro today a worker in Reuters Centre, London, takes in information on the currency

Labour is arrogant and remote, Blair warned

TONY BLAIR has been warned BY ANDREW GRICE that many voters feel his Govwith the public and becoming "arrogant" as it grows accustomed to power.

According to private polling and focus groups conducted for the Labour Party, people are also becoming increasingly doubtful that the Government

will fulfil its promises. The warnings will fuel demands for a change of emphasis after the resignation of the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, Peter Mandelson. The calls have been led by John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, who said last week ministers should "get away from rhetoric and back on to the substance of government".

Political Editor

The Independent, suggests Mr Prescott's anxieties are justified. Headed "1999 message", it

insists Labour continues to enjoy a strong position with a stable poll lead over the Tories, and is seen as "strong on the economy". However, it warns that private polling found "increasing concerns about delivery" and "anxiety that Labour may be getting arrogant and

might be losing touch". Yesterday, two senior trade union leaders increased the pressure on Mr Blair by endorsing Mr Prescott's stance.

Bill Morris, general secretary of the Transport and Gen-

Mandelson and Geoffrey Robin- keep it Labour." son as Paymaster-General "might be a price worth paying" if the Government could "refosent to ministers, and seen by cus its philosophy, Its ideology

and its purposes". Ken Jackson, leader of the normally loyal AEEU engineering union, is backing Mr Prescott's opposition to Mr Blair's plans for closer links with the Liberal Democrats.

In a speech on Saturday, Mr Jackson will say: "We supported modernisation because we wanted Labour back in power, but the agenda of proportional representation, closer links with the Liberals and breaking the link with the unions is one with which we have no sympathy at all. We are

called the Labour Party for a

The strategy outlined in the "back to basics". The party's key message will be that the Government is fulfilling its pledges. It will highlight five key achievements: falling bospital waiting lists; a minimum wage helping two million people; £40bn extra for health and education; a record increase in child benefit; and 150,000 young people benefiting from the New Deal

programme for the jobless. Labour will seek to prevent a Tory recovery in this spring's elections to local authoribes. the Scottish and Welsb assemblies and European Parliament by warning voters that William Hague's party will "put at risk"

GMTV the resignations of Mr reason and we will fight to the "better Britain" Mr Blair is judgement" after Downing building. We are portraying the Street said be would not order Tories as a threat," the docu- Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, report suggests Mr Prescott has ment admits. "The Tories opwon his battle for Labour to go pose what Labour is doing. and would try to undo it."

The strategy document points to the "key dividing lines" between the parties, saying Labour has "strong leadership" while the Tories are "still drifting and divided" and that Mr Blair's party is "for the future" while Mr Hague's is "still stuck in the past".

But the Tories went on the attack yesterday, claiming the Government was in a "state of meltdown" because of its lack of direction and the personal rivalry in the Cabinet. John Redwood, the trade and industry spokesman, accused Mr Blair of "lacking moral and political to dismiss Charlie Whelan, his press secretary.

Mr Whelan denies leaking details of Mr Mandelson's £373,000 personal loan from Mr Robinson, which led to their resignations. He is due to return to work at the Treasury today, amid a cabinet battle in which some ministers want him sacked.

When Parliament returns a week today, Mr Brown will face Tory questions over his links with Mr Robinson. Yesterday, it emerged that the millionaire donated up to £200,000 to the Smith Political Economy Unit. which belped Mr Brown to draw up his policies while

Concern for sterling as dealing in euro starts

EUROPEAN FINANCIAL mar- By DIANE COYLE kets open for dealings in the euro for the first time today. The new era follows a frantic New Year for City bankers who worked around the clock to ensure systems were ready to cope with Europe's single

But as the euro goes live, the spectre of George Soros again hangs over the pound, which has remained outside the eurozone. The currency speculator, wbo made a reported \$1bn from Britain's departure from the exchange rate mechanism (ERM) in 1992, is said to be waiting in the wings ready to punish sterling. He may have to wait for his opportunity, bowever, as trading in the euro is expected to be thin in the early days while dealers become ac-

customed to the new currency. The Bank of England claimed yesterday that the City's "conversion weekend" had been successfully completed after a marathon 100bour effort to change over systems after markets closed on 30 December, But as Far Eastern markets opened overnight it was still unclear whether dealings in the euro would start without problems. No bank has admitted the possibility of failure though one iltancy group warned that 40 per cent of all euro transactions could fail because of computer problems. "Few financial institutions have thought further ahead than the first day's trading," said Cap Gemini, a computer group involved in

the conversion process. But the mood in London was upbeat yesterday as tired bankers headed home for a brief rest before returning to their desks this morning. The

AND NIGEL COPE

Bank estimated that about 30,000 City staff had taken part in the conversion process, which has been compared to the Stock Exchange's "Big Bang" of the 1980s. It has required banks to redenominate prices, cash balances, trading positions and historical data in euros.

(TR50p) 45p

From today, dealers used to trading the US dollar against the German mark will trade it against the euro instead. The same will go for all of the 11 currencies that form part of the euro-zone. Sterling is not included as Britain has not yet taken the decision to join.

In an almost military manoeuvre banks cancelled staff leave, kept canteens open and block-booked local hotels. Bankers Trust said its staff had consumed 1,400 bars of chocolate, 5,000 cakes, 3,500 rashers of bacon and 2,000 sausages over the New Year period as they worked to make systems ready. Barclays Capital, a division of Barclays Bank,booked 80 rooms at the Britannia Hotel in Docklands and brought in first aid experts in case of emergencies.

David Clementi, deputy governor of the Bank of England, across the City of London has gone very smoothly indeed, as we expected. The City was well prepared."

Sydney was the first market to start euro trading where it opened at US\$1.1747 and was trading at 0.708 against the pound In Tokyo the euro opened at a rate of 133.15 ven. Volumes were thin as dealers reacted with caution.

Launch of the euro, page 5

Now Clinton's DNA faces paternity test

An internal Labour report eral Workers' Union, said on

IN A case of life imitating art im- BY MARY DEJEVSKY itating life, Bill Clinton's DNA was back in the news yesterday with reports that a 13-year-old Arkansas boy is waiting to find out whether what his mother has always told him is true: that he is the son of the President of the United States.

A picture of the child suggests that a relationship cannot be ruled out. The boy, Danny Williams, has been brought up by his mother, Bobbie Ann, who is black and was working as a prostitute at the time Danny was conceived.

According to the Star, a tabloid with a track record for Whitebouse exposés, the boy has had a sample of his DNA taken for testing. This could be matched against information

Publishing transfer

Penguin has reportedly

poached Nick Hornby

from Gollancz for £2m

Meningitis fears

Hundreds vaccinated

after meningitis deaths

News P3

Home P6

INSIDE THIS SECTION

in Washington

about the sample given by President Clinton in the Monica Lewinsky case last summer.

The Danny Williams story was given a perverse kind of credence by Joe Klein's novel, Primary Colors, and last year's film of the same name, whose main character is based on Mr

Primary Colors has the rumour of an illegitimate black child surfacing in the presidential campaign, and outlines the attempts made to suppress the information. In the novel, the child's paternity is left ambiguous.

Klein - who originally denied

Checks on GPs

Doctors face random

Pakistan bomb attack

Four die in attempt on

Pakistani leader's life

monitoring of their

performance

Foreign P10

Home P8

1991-92 campaign and many of the details described in the novel, which circulated only as rumours in the early Nineties,

have turned out to be true. The Danny Williams story like many of the less savoury allegations about Mr Clinton's past - has been consistently shunned by the mainstream media in the United States.

The new development - the child's DNA test - was reported only by the Star and another tabloid, the New York Post. It was also reported by the Internet "gossip", Matt Drudge, whose reports on the Monica Lewinsky case were overwhelmingly vindicated.

True or false, the revival of the Danny Williams story, days writing the book - covered the before the Senate decides

Rates on hold

Business P13

FA Cup

Sport P26

Bank of England is

expected to refrain from

The draw for the Fourth

Round of the FA Cup

cutting interest rates



Clinton: New scandal over illegitimate 'son' aged 13

whether to try Mr Clinton after his impeachment by the House of Representatives over the Lewinsky affair, was unlikely to be mere chance.

The question was whether it epresented opportunism on the part of the Stor, a last desperate attempt by Mr Clinton's enemies to smear him at a crucial stage in the impeachment process, or the truth. US arms bill soars, page 11

INSIDE THE REVIEW

Andrew Marshall

in its history

John Walsh

Comment P5

Comment P4

The US has just ended

Welcome to wonderful

world of PlayStation

one of the happiest years

every two years?

THE PRESIDENT of football's BY LEN GOULD world governing body announced a revolutionary plan to stage the World Cup every two years yesterday.

Sepp Blatter, the Fifa supremo, said the current format, with the World Cup played every four years, is out of date and threatened by a proposed European club superleague. The controversial proposal,

if approved, would stem the growing power of Uefa, Europe's governing body, and enable Fifa to cash in on one of the biggest money-makers in sport.

Blatter said: "I want a football world championship every two years. Then the nabonal teams will get the rankings they deserve. The existing fouryearly tournament is out of date. It dates from the 1930s

E-mail abuse

Network P9

side of cyberspace

Experiencing the darker

An everyday story...

How The Archers is

saving lives in the

developing world

On Air P12

when teams chugged from one continent to another on ships." But Sir Bobby Charlton, an England World Cup winner, condemned the plan and said a move to a biennial tournament would be "very sad". He added: "Every four years is often enough because it's something

to look forward to." Blatter's plan would see qualification for the finals taking place in odd-numbered years. The European Championship would have to be scrapped and perhaps become

a qualifying competition. However, any changes could not come into force before 2006 - when England are bidding to stage the World Cup.

New world order, Page 23

Another new year arrives. But with it this time a brand new currency. If you're in business, it could be worth being with the bank that is in more European countries than any other. So, as you ring in the new currency, don't forget Barclays. One of Europe's oldest acquaintances

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Portrait of a marriage

The artists who are still

working as a team, 25

The American has had

his bellyful of diets

years later

Features P8

Billi Bryson

Features P8

2 B

TODAY'S TELEVISION

IN THE INDEPENDENT TOMORROW

Face the fat: Does your child have a weight problem?

FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE: THE HEALTH PAGES EVERY TUESDAY

PLUS MEDIA: **BRITAIN'S SIX MOST** INFLUENTIAL JOURNALISTS **EWITH ARTS & VISUAL ARTS**

THE BEST WRITING, WEEK IN, WEEK OUT: DEBORAH ROSS, HOWARD JACOBSON, HAMISH MCRAE, ROBERT FISK, TERENCE BLACKER, JOHN WALSH, RICHARD WILLIAMS, DAVID AARONOVITCH, ANNE MCELVOY, THOMAS SUTCLIFFE, MILES KINGTON, SUE ARNOLD, ANDREAS WHITTAM SMITH

Blair is accused as children miss class

TONY BLAIR was accused of BY ANDREW GRICE double standards yesterday after it emerged that his three childreo will miss the start of the school term because of his family's New Year holiday in the Sevchelles.

Their absence has embarrassed the Prime Minister because David Blunkett, the Education and Employment Secretary, launched a campaign last week to persuade arents not to take holidays during term time.

Mr Blunkett is to hold talks with teaching unions and holiday companiesin response to complaints by head teachers about the number of unautho- for all I know, might have given rised absences. But the initiative rebounded on the Government yesterday when two of the teaching unions criticised Mr Blair, who was also given a public rebuke by the head of the school attended by

tary of the National Association of Head Teachers, said: "It is unfortunate that the Prime Political Editor

example of this nature, given the policy which his own Government is trying to enforce."

Mr Hart said all parents of children at schools that had a policy of no unauthorised absences for holidays had a duty to stick to the rule. "If you allow one family to get away with it, then what are the other families going to think?

"If the Blairs had wanted to cut into the term time, then it was open to them to obtain the head's permission and get an authorised absence. The head, permission," he said.

Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the NASUWT teachers' union, said: "This is a good example of why politicians should keep their mouths shut and not try to lecture other parents. They try to tell David Hart, general secre-teachers how to run schools and end up being embarrassed themselves.

John McIntosh, headmas-



Tony Blair: Embarrassed

London, criticised what he called the "unauthorised absence" of Mr Blair's sons and said he usually wrote a stern letter to parents who allowed their children to stay away during term time

He added: "I am really tough about this sort of thing. I say to parents they must observe what I call the three Hs - haircuts, holidays and homework."

David Willetts, the Conservative education spokesman, Minister should he setting an ter at Oratory School, west said Mr Blair's decision had

"cut the ground" from under Mr Blunkett's feet. "This is another piece of Labour hypocrisy in

But Downing Street dismissed the controversy, insisting that Eusn, 14 and Nicky, 13, would miss only one day's school. The Oratory does not return until tomorrow and they should be at their desks on

Kathryn, Mr Blair's 10-yearold daughter, is expected to miss two days at the Joan of Arc primary school in Highbury, whose pupils return today.

Downing Street denied the charge of double standards. A spokesman said: "David Blunkett was talking about families taking their entire holidays outside the school term and that children should not miss two or three weeks of school. That is different to missing one or two

The spokesman added that the Blair children were not absent without permission: "Mrs Blair wrote some time ago to the headmaster explaining that



High winds bring out the surfers in Lyme Regis, Dorset yesterday Richard Austin

Two die as gales sweep in

TWO PEOPLE died yesterday BY LOUISE JURY as the storms that have wreaked havoc over the holiday

period continued to hatter much of southern England. A pensioner died in West Sussex when he was struck by a branch falling from a tree and

another man was killed by storm debris in Somerset. Robert Bridger, 70, died instantly outside his home in Bolney, West Sussex, in front of

his 11-year-old grandson. A police spokesman said: "A large branch came down and

He then became trapped underneath it.

The second of yesterday's storm victims died when he was apparently struck by parts of a tin roof blown off a building as he walked along a canal path in Bridgwater. Somerset. Police were not naming the 51year-old man until his relatives

had been contacted. In Hampshire, a woman was flown to hospital by coastguard helicopter after being injured by a falling tree, while anothher car seconds after she got out of it.

In Pill near Bristol, villagers found themselves under three feet of water after Environment Agency staff forgot to close the gates on a new £5m flood defence system.

The rain is expected to clear gradually today but Northern England and Northern Ireland still face a huffeting from gales and avalanche warnings remain in force in the Scottish Highlands.

Clerics out of touch, say firms

By JANE HUGHES

CLAIMS BY two senior churchmen that flexible working conditions are destroying family life were vehemently denied by the husiness community last night.

Cardinal Basil Hume, leader of the Roman Catholic Church in England and Wales, and James Jones, the Anglican Bishop of Liverpool, expressed concern that anti-social shifts and long working hours posed a threat to children's futures.

In an interview yesterday with GMTV's Sunday programme, Cardinal Hume said shop staff and City traders preparing for the introduction of the euro should have refused to work over the festive period.

On the same programme Bishop Jones urged employers to take more account of the family. He said: "I think the way some people are made to work is very destructive of family life and people who lead companies ought to be more responsible."

Bnt Ruth Lea, head of policy for the Institute of Directors. said the churchmen were "out of touch" and should accept that Britain was a multi-cultural society with many non-Christians happy to work over the festive period. "Businesses have to compete and on the whole employers will try and be accommodating but they have to be able to survive," she said.

"At the end of the day employees want their company to do well, otherwise there will in Devon when a tree crushed | he no johs at all, and don't forget they do get paid.

Many of the hig supermarkets insisted that employees had freedom of choice concerning working hours over Christmas. A spokeswoman for Somerfield supermarkets said that parents were given an option to work over the period. "One of the advantages of working very flexible hours is that people are given the choice to juggle their families," she said.

Leading article. Review, page 3

Whelan backed by Beckett

A CABINET dispute deepened BY ANDREW GRICE yesterday over whether Gordoo Brown, the Chancellor, should dismiss his controversial press secretary after allegations that he played a part in the downfall

of Peter Mandelson. the Commons, gave her public support to Mr Brown's efforts to keep Charlie Whelan despite demands by several other cabinet colleagues for him to be ousted.

A defiant Mr Whelan is due back at his Treasury desk today after a walking holiday near Inverness. Scotland. One friend said: "People have predicted his demise before and been proved wrong. He has done nothing wrong and so there are no

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grounds for any action against Supporters of Mr Mandelson

are convinced that details of his £373,000 personal loan from paymaster-general, were passed by Mr Whelan to Paul Routledge, author of an unauthorised hiography of Mr Mandelson. Mr Routledge denied Mr Whelan was his source but revealed at the weekend that he had tried to remove the reve-

lation from his book because he believed Downing Street would suspect Mr Whelan and demand his sacking.

Yesterday Mrs Beckett told BBC Radio 5 Live that Mr Whe-

lan was an "excellent communicator" and suggested his enemies were seeking to make him a scapegoat for the Mandelson affair.

cross about some of the things that happen obviously they look flies. But the Government as a whole works well together and that includes the Treasury team," she said.

Asked whether she was demanding Mr Whelan's resignation, she replied: "I never subscribe to demanding anybody's head on a platter, particularly not when they are good at their job."

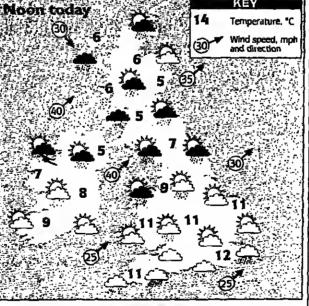
Mr Whelan's survival

prospects received a boost when Downing Street insisted his future was a matter for Mr Brown rather than Mr Blair. The Tories accused the Prime "I think wheo people get Minister of "lacking the courage to order his dismissal".

Ministers who want Mr Whefor people to hlame and the flak lan moved are threatening to raise the issue at next week's cabinet meeting.

Some ministers believe Mr Blair wants Mr Brown to make the decision to part company among the group of ministers with his spin-doctor, so it does not appear the decision was imposed on the Chancellor. They believe Mr Whelan will keep his job in the short term, but will switch to another post after the dust has settled on Mr Mandelson's resignation. | struck Mr Bridger on the head.

BRITAIN TODAY



Cent S, SW & SE England: Mostly cloudy with drizzly run at times. A strong south-west wind later moderate. Max temp 11-14C [52-57F]. B England, Midlands: Rain clearing then fresher with sumy spells and scattere showers. A strong south-west wind later moderate, Max temp 11-14C (52-57F). Channel Is: Overcast and misty with fog patches and drizzly rain. A moderate to fresh south-west wind. Max temp 12-13C (54-55F).

Cent N, NE & NW England, Leise Dist, Isle of Man, N Walest Windy with heavy showers. A gale force south-west wind. Max temp 8-11C (46-52F). S Wates: Sunny spells and showers. A fresh south-west wind easing light. Max temp 9-11C (a8-52F).

IE Scotland, Aberdeen: Sunny spells and lest wind. Max temp 5-7C (41-45F).

OUTLOOK it will become very mild over England and Wales on both Tuesday and Wednes-day, but it will be rather cloudy with rain at times. Scotland and Northern Ireland will be fresher, but brighter with sunshine and showers.

London: A12 Green Mari Roundsbout, Leytonstone, Major roachworks on new M11 link road. Until 31st December. Cernbridgeshire A10 between Forton and M11. Resurfacing and bridge mantenanco work at Shapreth Mil. Until 14th February. Bristoti. M5 J18-19. Major Roadworks on Avonnouth Bridge. Until 23rd June 2001. Mormouthshire: A449 between Usk A472 and M4 J24. Roadworks. Until 11th January. Lancashire: M8 Between LT/S Sandah and L26 Leytand. Roadworks; contrality and a 50mph speed limit either side of Chamook. Pichard Services. Until 15th February.

WELL.

Greetor Manchester: A67. Namow lenea Menchester-bound, due to Matrolink construction work, Unit 28th February. South Yorkinkres M. Between 334 Tinsley Vladuct (A6178), Sheffield. Gartegevary reduced to 2 tares southbound. Unit 21st November 2000. Durnifries and Galloway: A74 between Bestitock and J18 Annandale. Major roadworks, unit 31st January.

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4.07pm 4.15pm 3.57pm 4.05pm 4.03pm 3.52pm HIGH TIDES

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EXTREMES est: Torquay 10C (50F)

YESTERDAY

Coldest (day): Eskdalemuir 3C (37F) Mettest: Copel Curig 0.5 ms Summers: Sunderland 3.0 hrs For 24hrs to 2pm Sunday

0.2 0.32 2.0 0.45 0.1 0.17 0.7 0.08 2.5 0.34 3.0 0.35 3.0 0.48 1.5 0.35 4.9 0.04 4.4 0.03 0.9 0.06

24 hours to 6pm (GMT) Saturday Information by PA WeatherCeptr RAIN OR SHINE...

3.6 0.25

11 52

BAD WEATHER eroded the walls of a waste reservoir near Huelva in southern Spain last week, allowing about 50,000 litres of by-products from a fertiliser factory to spill into surrounding marshland.

Environmentalists immediately drew comparisons with April's spill of 5bn litres of toxic waste from the nearby Aznalcollar mine reservoir that threatened the Donana Park - one of Europe's most renowned nature reserves.

THE WORLD EUROPE NOON TODAY THE ATLANTIC NOON TODAY

Low B will drift east and begin to fill slightly. Low C will move rapidly north east towards the British Isles and deepen.

THE WORLD YESTERDAY

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Review, page 5

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ROY

£160,000, 1997

HarperCollins pald money for rights to

The God of Small

Lyrical tragi-comedy set around a pickle

Transfer fever grips publishers as Hornby joins Penguin for £2m

BY STEVE BOGGAN AND LINUS GREGORIADIS

THE PUBLISHING industry was bracing itself for a round of football-style transfers yesterday amid reports that Nick Hornby, the author of Fever Pitch had switched camps for a fee of 12m.

In moves that bore echoes of the much-hyped £500,000 received by Martin Amis for his book, The Information - which has so far failed to recoup the outlay - Hornby became the latest in a string of authors to join the millionaires' club for novels that have not yet been written.

The former teacher, whose other books, High Fidelity and About A Boy, have also be-come bestsellers, is understood to have been poached from Gollancz by Penguin in a deal that will see him deliver two more books in the first couple of years of the next century.

Hornhy's track record sales of 700,000 paperback copies of his first two novels and 110,000 hardback copies of his third - bas convinced Penguin that he is worth the money. But industry watchers predicted the deal could have a knock-on effect among poorer writers as they are squeezed out of the limelight by better-established authors who believe they can earn more by switching pub-

Already this year, Sue Townsend, creator of Adrian Mole, has moved from Methuen after 17 years, also to Penguin, and Transworld has signed up Ben Elton, author of Popcorn, in a £1.5m deal that took him from Simon & Schuster

The big-money bidding has left some writers concerned that the publishing houses are spending too much money on too few authors.

What concerns me is that in the past, when authors have not recouped the money spent on them, there has been evidence a while later of job losses in the industry - and it isn't the people at the top who lose their jobs," said A S (Antonia) Byatt, the Booker Prize winning novelist.

"Nick Hornby seems to be one of the few people who can

PUBLISHER

DEAL

FAMOUS

TITLE

PLOT

HIT/

MISS

£15m, 1995

The Fourth Estate.

ioosely based on Robert Maxwell and

Rupert Murdoch.

ARCHER

Three-book deal Left Simon & Schuster to sign a two-book deal with Murdoch's

£1.1m. 1998

Blast from the Past

the form of Jack Kent, a US army

NOT A PENNY MORE, NOT A PENNY LESS ... HOW PUBLISHERS WOO THEIR WRITERS WITH ADVANCES

ELTON

The past blasts into Fable about two

Like a string of pre-vious novels includ-The author of Popcom, 5tark and ing Kane and Abel Gridlock goes from strength to strength. Blast from and a Matter of Honour The Eleventh Commandment, his post-Cold War thriller was the best sellers over Christmas, First among the best-sellmade his name as ing hardbacks last TV scriptwriter. Wrote hugely suc-cessful Blackadder year, Sales boosted by glittering reviews

Brooding novel of bookish rivalry in Polly Stade's life in which strangely familiar author general and would-be president. demands big advance from his publisher. Regarded in the publishing world as a commercial fiasco,

£500,000, 1995

to HarperCollins.

The information

From Jonathan Cape

MARTIN

AMIS

with sales not sufficient to cover the advance. However, it continues to sell slowly and looks like a bargain compared with recent deals. Amis rejoined Random House for

Hard-back sales regarded as disappointing. Paperback due to be

hyped in the spring breathe life back

factory in Kerala,

ROBERT

MAWSON

£420,000, 1997

From Transworld

when Mawson was

unknown 41-year-

The Lazarus Child

An English couple

try to bring their

Sales doubled after she won the Booker prize. The book shot up the best seller lists in India, Auscralla and Britain, earning in excess of £1m in advance rights sales.

Despite small amount of cash up front, it turned into one of the best sell-

£25,000, 1994

Vintage.

Birdsong

Tiny advance from

First World War love

story of guy gets girl, guy gets shell shock.

SEBASTIAN

FAULKS

ing novels of the 1990s, with more than 500,000 sold. Known in the industry not as Birdsong but as "Going for a

Nick Hornby, whose top-selling books include 'Fever Pitch' and 'High Fidelity', will have to deliver two new titles in the next few years under the Penguin publishing deal

from newspapers In

probably deserves whatever he can get. The deals that really concern me are the advances given to some authors on the strength of a 2,000-word

"When they don't work, the publishing houses spend all their time and money hyping them in order to achieve sales. When that happens, perfectly good authors on their third or fourth book are ignored and don't get the exposure they

make the money back, so he houses were bidding up to

£600,000 for the rights to publish the first two - unwritten books by Amy Jenkins, creator of the television series This Life. All they had seen was a 2,000-word first chapter and an accompanying outline.

Similarly, the amounts bid for some first and second novels from unproven writers send chills down the spine of some industry-watchers. Robert Mawson, a former pilot, was given a £420,000 advance for The Lozarus Child after a bid-Last year, two publishing ding war. But the story of a cou-

child out of a coma sold disappointingly in hardback and will have to be hyped again when the paperback comes out in the spring if it is to recoup costs. Last year Richard Mason, a

20-year-old Oxford undergraduate, attracted £200,000 bids for his first two novels - having written only one of them. The Drowning People, when he was 18. That, alongside the £15m

Jeffrey Archer tied up in a three-book deal three years ago, makes Amis's £500,000 advance for The Information and ple's attempts to bring their a book of short stories - after

an acclaimed career spanning more than two decades - look positively frugal. (Amis has quietly returned to Random

series for BBC.

House in a £1m four-book deal.) But the sums still worry the likes of Martyn Goff, administrator of the Booker Prize. "In the case of the bigger

publishing houses, I believe many of these advances are given simply to enhance their image and attract more agents and their authors," he said. "It is like a loss-leader and I suspect more don't recoup the outlay than do recoup it.

"The effect on other authors is quite subtle. When it comes to selling these titles in spring and early autumn, all the marketing attention is devoted to absurdly puffed up efforts on them, at the expense of perfect-

ly good books by good authors

who deserve more attention." Sometimes, however, gambles work. Nicholas Evans's book. The Horse Whisperer, attracted frenzied bidding over film rights even before it was written. Eventually, he received £2.3m for US publication rights

and £350,000 (from Transworld)

that Robert Redford has made that film, the book is selling well.

When a £250,000 advance was given to Vikram Seth for his first novel, A Suitable Boy, many thought the sum was insane. But the book went on to sell more than 120,000 hardback copies in the UK alone and hundreds of thousands more in paperback worldwide,

Nicholas Clee, deputy editor of The Bookseller, believes the Hornby deal is a good one for the rest of the industry. "If you able to beat even King.

to publish in the UK. And now consider the sales of his other povels and the fact that they are transferring well to the screen, I can't imagine any accountant saying £2m wasn't a good investment," he said.

Besides, as Lord Archer of Weston-super-Mare might say, what's £2m anyway?

Especially when you see the advances earned by America's heavyweights: Stephen King, £23m for three books; Barbara Taylor Bradford, £17m for three; and John Grisham, ru-Penguin and not a bad one for moured in the business to be

london

stansted

Boy of 12 shoots himself in Russian roulette game

A 12-YEAR-OLD boy put a .38 BY PHIL DAVISON revolver to his temple and shot himself in the head during what police believe was a game of Russian roulette, prompted by boredom and, possibly, a violent

Detectives in Florida said Timothy Jamel Hadley, who later died from his injuries, and his friend Anthony Murphy, 15, were watching the 1994 film Menace II Society - about gangs in the Watts area of Los Angeles - at 11pm on New Year's Day. Timothy then apparently decided to play Russian roulette with a stolen .38 Smith and Wesson pistol while his mother, Genelle Hadley, was visiting a neighbour.

Timothy and Anthony, described by police as an often homeless youth from a broken home, may have watched the

film because a youth centre they went to on Friday night to play pool had closed down because it could not afford to pay its electricity bill.

They suspect that the boys had stolen the revolver and a powerful 357 magnum auto-matic pistol in robberies they carried out because they were

Timothy shot himself in the right temple at his home near the Indian river, which separates the working-class Palm Bay neighbourhood from the popular beaches of the Mel-

His friend ran to a nearby house, where Timothy's uncle called the emergency services. The boy was rushed to the Holmes Regional Medical Centre in Melbourne, where he died late on Saturday. Anthony then fled, apparently fearing that he would be blamed for his friend's death, and spent the night terrified in a shed. He

later told his story to two

cousins, who took him to police. The police interviewed Murphy, whose mother had died re-cently and whose father is in jail, but said that he was not a

"He was terrified," one of his cousins said. "He was in shock. This was his best friend who died." Police said that the boy co-operated with them. "He was very remorseful," said a

"We believe it was Russian roulette because it had all the signs," said George Santiago, a Palm Bay detective. "There had only been one bullet in the

chamber and he was shot in the right temple. It looks as though he spun the chamber, put it to his head and happened on the single bullet. We believe It was an accidental death."

Police said that they were studying the film Menace II Society to see if any particular scene may have given Timothy the idea of playing Russian roulette. It shows young people living amid violence and dealing in drugs in Los Angeles' Watts area, scene of serious rioting in the past.

A spokesman for the Light of the Lord Ministries recreation centre, which the two boys had found closed on Friday night, said that it would be renamed after Timothy Hadley when it reopened. Police also said his family had donated his organs

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Virgin train feels the strain

BY LOUISE JURY

RAILWAY PASSENGERS might be forgiven for thinking they had heard every excuse in the book. But even the most battleweary traveller on the Newcastle upon Tyne to Bristol service was stunned when their train ran out of fuel five miles outside Birmingham.

In what experts described as an unprecedented breakdown, the bizarre diesel deficiency left travellers two hours late into Birmingham New Street. John Parker, 23, who board

ed the train in Doncaster, said: "I thought I had heard all the excuses about useless trains, but apparently not. We've had leaves on the line and the wrong type of snow, but simply running out of fuel is the

craziest yet. I couldn't believe

my ears when we were told the

According to passengers, an engineer sent to the rescue



No leaves, no snow and no fuel as Virgin train pulls up

walked through the carriages and jokingly asked if they knew where to find the nearest petrol

A spokesman for Virgin consumption_ The train ground to a halt Trains said he could "honestly not remember it ever happenjust after passing Tamworth in Staffordshire and another ing before". He said the problem arose after one of the two diesel engine had to be sent to engines powering the train dethe rescue. The spokesman said norveloped a fault and, as promally there was "always" grammed, shut down.

enough fuel for a train to complete a journey, even on one engine. But he added: "Richard Branson said there would be problems when he took over the franchise in 1997. "The rolling stock is 15 to 20 ears old in this case. We are holding together with what

we've got but we have more than £1bn new trains on order." They were also spending about £1m on each existing train to make them as reliable

as possible, he said. Michael Harris, editor of Railway World magazine, con-The trains are designed to firmed that running out of fuel really was a novelty in terms of run on only one engine - or "power car" in railway jargon railway excuses.

but doing so affects the fuel "It's almost unheard of for a train to run out of fuel as they carry up to 2,000 gallons," he said. "But railway operators refill trains as rarely as possible. This is because any train travelling to the refuelling depot is not carrying passengers and so not making money.

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Our 0% finance offer opplies to all Polos. Unlike a Palo, though, it isn't designed to run indefinitely. March 31st, 1999 is the deadline. Meantime, here's samething rarely associated with Volkswagen. A breakdawn. Typical example: Pola 1.0L 3-daar. Cash price (on the road): £8,290.00. 50% deposit: £4,145.00. Finance charges: £0. APR: 0%. 12 monthly repayments: £345.42. Total amount poyable: £8,290.00. Other credit facilities are also available. What better way to put your finances into good running arder?



and a od tund

Conversion a success, say City banks

AS THE multi-coloured screens By Sarah Wilson of the City's dealing rooms AND NICHOLAS SCHOON light up today for their first trading in the euro there can be no excuses. Computer technicians worked around the clock over the New Year break to ensure that all support systems are spot on for the start of trading

this morning.

Now it is time for those on the trading floor to test their mettle against a new eovironment. Currency abbreviations that they have been using for decades to express rapid-fire trading positions have changed overnight.

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And while Britain sticks to pounds and pence, for oow, even the Bank of England is gearing up for the new currency. It has printed more than £100m of euro bank notes, although they are specimens only and will be destroyed.

Nick Donnelly, the director of the euro conversion project at Barclay's Capital, based at Canary Wharf, said: "Traders are pretty quick-witted people, but this is a complete paradigm

The men who do the deals,

used to quoting currencies against sterling. Now the euro has become the main currency to quote against. If they falter for a split second and misquote a deal, millions of

pounds could be lost.

Mitch Shivers, the global bead of EMU preparations at the US bank, Merrill Lynch, found himself getting quite emotional when the 11 currencies joining mooetary union converted to the euro on New Year's Eve. "There was a sense nf history taking place as the clock struck twelve in the various EMU participating oa-

tions," he said. As far as business is concerned, those 11 currencies are now finished. Ordinary people will still use guilders and francs until the euro notes and coins come into circulation in three years. But anyone setting up a business or speculating on the currency markets will make their deals in euros.

A spokesman for NatWest and they are nearly all men, are Bank said: "Today will be the ready. By yesterday, confident

acid test but we believe everything will go swimmiogly."

The opening of the Tokyn stock market in the early bours saw the first significant trades. But it was not until the London futures market opeoed at 7.30am that the fun really started. The City remains one of the most important financial centres in the world, with 500 international banks hased there. Almost a third of the world's foreign exchange deals are made in London, six times more than in Germany's financial capital,

The euro will also affect share dealing. All the stock markets in the 11 European countries joining the single currency will from now on list all company share prices in euros.

Frankfurt.

Exchange rates for the 11 currencies were not fixed until Thursday, so London institutions spent the first days of 1999 renominating bonds and converting curreocy balances to euros. The City hummed with the efforts of thousands of fioancial workers getting their companies and computers



Foreign exchange dealers in Sydney were among the first in the world to trade in the euro, starting at 5am local time today

statements began to emerge

from the financial labyrinth. "We're very pleased," said Keith Hamilton of Dresdner Kleinwort Benson investment bank. "It's been a long, long weekeod; lots of hleary-eyed

people around, but we're cause of the scale of interna-

David Clemeoti, deputy governor of the Bank of England. said: "All this work has been as, than in the euro area itself be- erations ever undertaken in fluctuations could hed down abroad for their sterling.

tional currency and securities business conducted by major

firms active here." The conversioo has beeo or more, complicated in London one of the largest logistical op-

the Loodoo market, involving an estimated 30,000 staff.

Some analysts warned that sterling could be in for a humpy ride during this week, hut predicted that currency

and lead to a weaker pound. That would bring relief to British exporters whose goods would be easier to sell, but would be bad oews for holiday-

Owen joins forces with the 'No' campaigns



Sykes: 'Someone has to

MILLIONS OF British bouse- By STEVE BOGGAN holds are being sent Eurosceptic leaflets by a millionaire Yorkshireman wbn believes British democracy is under

Paul Sykes, who is rumoured to be worth more than £250m. is underwriting a £20m campaign to coincide with the launch of the single currency in 11 European countries.

His campaign was given extra impetus yesterday wben Lord Owen, the former Labour foreign secretary, said that he, too, would be opposing the single currency. "People aren't stupid - they know when they are being sold a nig in a noke

Lord Owen said. "Effectively this is a big step towards greater integration." Lord Owen's opposition to

the euro will have delighted Mr Sykes. As a candidate for the Face of 1999, the 55-year-old husinessman cuts an unlikely figure - but from this week, he is likely to become as wellknown as the leaders of

Britain's main political parties. Mr Sykes, best known for financing Meadowhall shopping centre, near Sheffield, has become the front man for the Democracy Movement, a cam-

tary union in advance of the referendum on whether Britain should join.

In tandem with the remaining members of James Goldsmith's Referendum Party, Mr Sykes began his campaign on 1 January, with leaflets being sent to bomes, businesses and public buildings, predicting political and democratic meltdown in the wake of monetary softly spoken man with four

"This is the single most important issue for Britain this the standard-bearer. "But oot a century, but people don't seem politician," he insists. "This ow close we are to

ucating" the public about the giving up our democratic free-dom." Mr Sykes said. "If you about giving people the facts."

The son of a miner in Barnspromised - but as yet undated and exchange rates and hand over your gold reserves to unelected bodies in Brusseis and Frankfurt, then you have given up cootrol over your country's right to democratic selfdetermination. I can't stand by

> Mr Sykes has mixed feelings about his immine t brush with fame. A neat, diminutive and children, he says be is on the look-out for someooe else to be movement is oot about politics

and watch that happen."

ley, South Yorkshire, Mr Sykes made his money the hard way. At the age of 16 he was washing bottles and fitting tyres. By 18 he was working as a mechanic, and in his early twenties be was breaking up old buses for scrap metal, a business that earned him his own Rolls-Royce by the age of 24.

He went on to export reconditioned bus parts and then to buy and lease new buses and coaches. Property development deals increased his wealth. More recently he bought into and sold out of - an Internet

business, a move that earned and a federal Europe. And if you him £75m.

"Now it looks as though this [campaign] is going to take up all my time," be said. "I don't want to have to get into the limelight, but someone has to warn the British people about what is going on.

"I have paid for two surveys, which both showed that over 90 per cent of the public feel they aren't being given enough information about the single currency.

"Many seem to think the euro is just something they will buy to go on holiday - they don't realise that it must inevitably lead to political unioo

take away people's rights to vote on bow their money is spent and how they are taxed, then it leaves a huge void in our democratic system.

Mr Sykes was a Conservative for 27 years - until the last election, when he became disillusicoed with John Major's "wait and see" approach to monetary union.

Then, be speot more than £2m on anti-EMU advertising and on backing more than 200 Tory MPs who promised to campaign oo a Eurosceptic

This time, be is prepared to

Miss the 31st January deadline and you'll be stung for £100.



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ADDITIONAL COVER FOR A GAS FIRE

Urgent meningitis vaccinations for hundreds after pupils die

HUNDREDS OF schoolchildreo By ESTHER LEACH are to be vaccinated against meningitis today amid fears of an outhreak of the disease, for hours on a hospital trolley which claimed the lives of two

teenagers on New Year's Eve. Pupils at Wath Comprehensive School in Wath-on-Dearne. South Yorkshire, were given antibiotics as a precautionary measure vesterday after the deaths of two fellow pupils, Claire Wilkinson, 14, and Adam Rawson, 15, who died within 24 hours of first showing symp-

An immunisatioo pro-gramme at the school which has 1,700 pupils, will start today and continue tomorrow, when pupils will be given injections as a further precaution. The school, once attended by William Hague, leader of the Conservative Party, will be closed for lessons until Wednesday at the earliest.

The school's bead teacher. Robert Godber, described the two victims as "lively and happy" teenagers who cootributed greatly to school life. He said the school was shocked by what had happened and felt deeply for the victims' families.

"We will give whatever support we can, both to them and to many others who will be anxious at this time," he said.

Friends of the two victims were in a subdued mood yesterday as they waited in the school hall to be given antibi-

Richard Kinsella, 15, from Wath, said he was shocked and frightened by the news. "I never thought it was something that could happen here," be said, His friend, Andrew Bunker, 15, added: "It scared me but we have been told what to look out have been infected by the bacfor and we will be checking for symptoms.

There was controversy over the bospital treatment of one of the pupils who died. Claire Wilkinson's mother complained that her daughter had been left AND LINUS GREGORIADIS

after a specialist unit at a nearby hospital said that it had no beds available.

Claire Wilkinson was transferred to the Queen's Medical Centre, 40 miles away in Nottingham, nearly seven bours after she was first admitted to hospital on Wednesday.

Rotherham General Hospital yesterday defended its decisioo to move the teenager to the Nottingham hospital, which has a paediatric intensive care unit. A spokesman said: "It was decided that she needed specialist paediatric intensive care. She was taken to Nottingham because there were no beds at the unit in Sbeffield six miles away."

It emerged that there had been three other cases of meningitis in the Rotherham area within the last week, but Rotherham Health Authority dismissed fears of an epidemic. Tim Patterson, director of public health, said: "During the week we had three other cases but we don't think they were related. This number of cases is not unexpected at this time of year."

Dr Patterson added that he did not think that the school in Wath was the source of the outbreak. "We believe the victims contracted the disease as a result of socialising over the Christmas period," he said.

More than 2,000 schoolchildren in Gateshead, Tyne and Wear, will be given antibiotics and vaccinations against meningitis this week after the death of a 12-year-old girl, Six children from Tyne and Wear teria over the past 10 weeks. Dr Bashir Malik, consultant in public health for Gateshead Health Authority, urged parents not to panic and said the vaccination programme was a purely preventive measure.



Pupils and their parents leaving Wath Comprehensive School yesterday after being given antibiotics against meningitis

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON A DEADLY DISEASE

What is meningitis? Meningitis is an inflammation of the meninges, the membranes that cover the brain. It can be caused by bacteria or viruses.

How dangerous is it? Although the more common viral form is very debilitating, only the bacterial form is lifethreatening. Meningococcal meningitis, the most common bacterial strain, can be deadly, especially when it leads to septicaemia. About one In 10 of all meningitis victims dies. A further 7 per cent

disease strikes.

bacteria in their throats.

often have a severe are left handicapped. Early diagnosis is crucial because of the speed at which the

Where does it come from? About a quarter of young

adults carry meningococcal

What are the symptoms? Initially like flu. Sufferers headache, a stiff neck and a temperature. Vomiting, Intolerance to bright lights. back and joint pains and drowsiness or confusion are also symptoms. A bruise-like rash is

indicative of septicaemia.

How common is the disease?

Immediately,

Last year there were about 2,600 cases, resulting In about 270 deaths. In the past 10 years, the number

which causes half of all

remains visible, medical

advice should be sought

deaths. A test against the

disease involves pressing a

glass against the rash. If it

of cases in Britain has doubled, with more than 200 deaths annually.

When are people most at There is a big increase in meningitis cases in November and December because of increased social Interaction, according to the National Meningitis

LINUS GREGORIADIS

Ofsted surveys 'bad for schools'

BY JUDITH JUDD Education Editor

INSPECTIONS BY the Office for Standards in Education do not improve schools, according to a survey of head teachers pubished today.

The survey by the National Union of Teachers of 1.250 heads found that only one in five felt that inspections led directly to improvement. On the contrary, staff lost motivation and were so tired that pupils' learning suffered.

The criticisms are the latest in a series from beads and teachers as the Commons Education and Employment Committee continues its investigatioo into Ofsted.

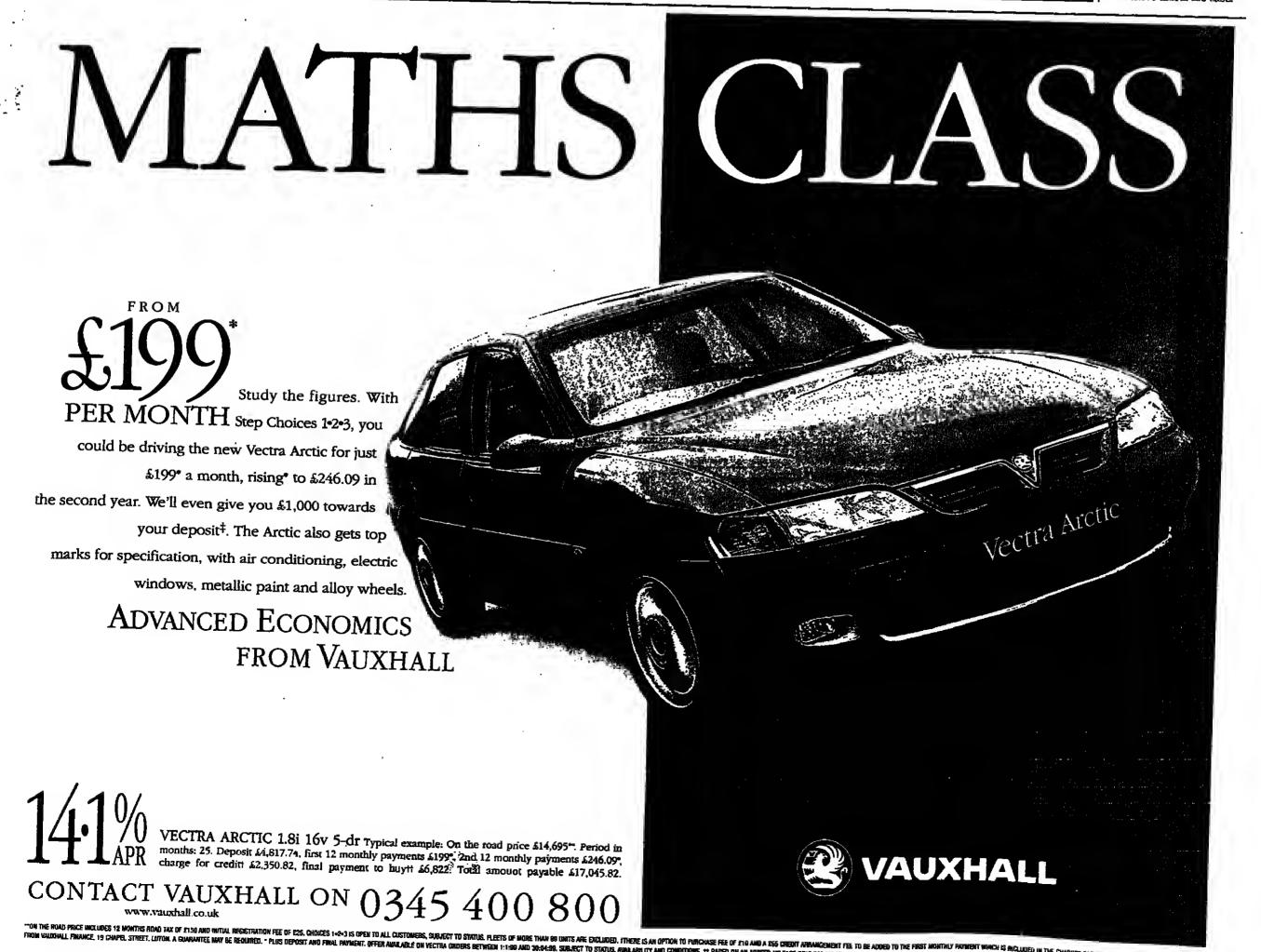
One head said: "Although our report was relatively good. it took my staff eight months to start operating again at a normal level. This was to the detriment of their classes."

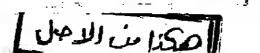
Another said: "Staff were under stress in the period leading up to the inspection, which did nothing to improve teaching, and the focus of the school shifted away from our work with the children towards paperwork and policy docu-

A third said that teachers who made an effort and "stagemanaged" the eveot did well. Some good teachers, on the other band, who allowed inspectors to take them as they found them, did not do well.

Heads were evenly divided on whether inspectors made fair and accurate judgements and on whether they took sufficient account of pupils' back-

grounds and schools' histories. Doug McAvoy, the union's general secretary, said: "The extra stress and workload created by Ofsted inspections might be justified if the process and outcomes were valued by teachers and led to school improvement. But head and deputy head teachers clearly do not believe that is the case."

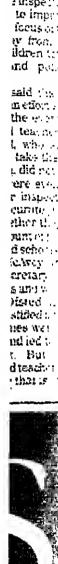






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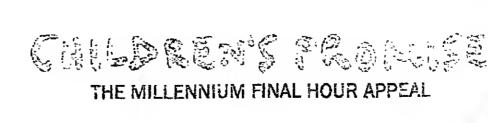
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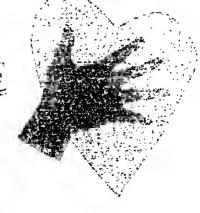
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Undercover monitors to check on GPs

DOCTORS FACE having their BY JANE HUGHES work secretly monitored under controversial proposals to measure their performance.

The use of "undercover" monitors to carry out random checks on GPs and specialists is one option under consideration as the medical profession moves to tighten self-regulation. Another possibility is the introduction of formal tests to assess doctors' knowledge of medical developments.

The General Medical Couneil (GMC) is considering whether to introduce five yearly performance checks for every doctor, a move which could be approved at its cooference next month.

Its attempts to restore public confidence in the profession without giving up doctors' rights of self-regulation follow the outery over the deaths of 29 children in the Bristol heart surgery disaster.

Last June, Bristol surgeons James Wisheart and Janardan Dhasmana, and the former chief executive of their governing NHS Trust, John Roylance, were found guilty of serious professional miscon-

on babies to continue despite evidence of the high death rate.

However, while the oeed for more rigorous monitoring is widely recognised, many fear that undercover assessment would be a step too far.

Jean Robinson, a former lay member of the GMC and visiting professor at Ulster University's health sciences department, said such a system would be open to abuse.

"I am not in favour of subterfuge, it fosters an atmosphere of fear and suspicion in a place where team work is essential," she said.

"It should be perfectly possible to monitor a doctor's work openly and honestly and above board. If there is a suspicion that there is a problem with their standard of work you present them with the information

was wrong for doctors to be registered for life and called for regular assessmeots. She also wanted more attention to be paid to patients experiences. "There are doctors who publish

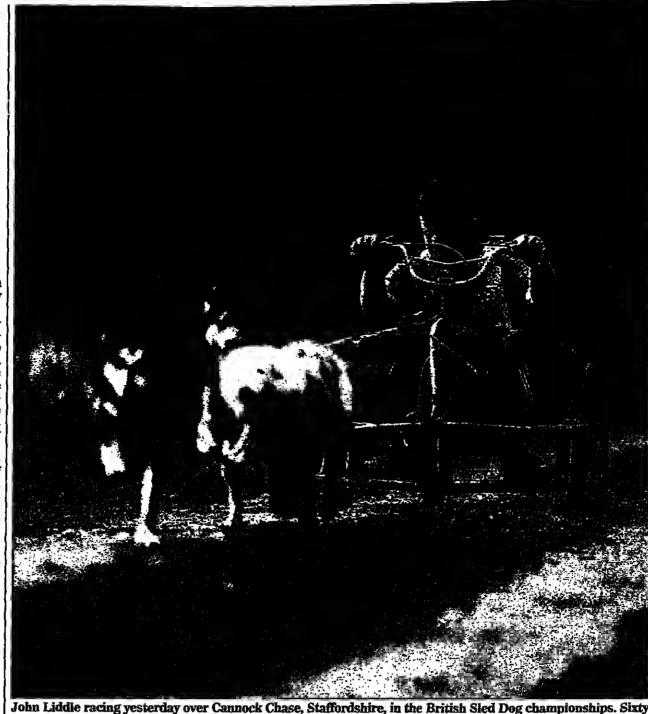
at the kind of effect they have on their patients, they are not very impressive at all," she said. Other critics of the GMC pro-

posals have called for an independent body to be set up to monitor the profession. A spokesman for the BMA said the need for a re-validation scheme had been accepted and the details would be discussed at the conference next month, although it would be two years before any changes could be introduced.

Late last year, despite pressure from the Department of Health for more external checks and balances, the GMC pulled back from ordering regular competence checks on senior doctors. However, its members fear that if the profession is not seen to be taking the lead in monitoring itself, new systems will be imposed by the Government.

In June, the GMC updated its and discuss it." guide, "Maintaining Good Med-Professor Robinson said it ical Practice", which spells out the duty on doctors to report colleagues who put patients at risk. Following the Bristol inquiry.

the Senate of Surgery of Great Britain and Ireland also said that all consultant surgeons should impressive papers but if you look be subject to regular checks.



John Liddle racing yesterday over Cannock Chase, Staffordshire, in the British Sled Dog championships, Sixty competitors with teams of two to six dogs reached 30mph over courses of up to six miles

IN BRIEF

Doubts over boy heroin addict

DOUBT WAS cast last night over reports that a boy aged eight was being treated for heroin addiction in East Yorkshire. Dr Paul Hewish. who runs the main treatment service for addicts in Goole. where the boy allegedly lives, has spoken to every GP in the town and no one had heard of him.

'Seat-belts for dogs' campaign

RUTH HAMILTON, an animalloving author, is writing to Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, demanding it be made compulsory for dogs in cars to wear a seat-belt. Ms Hamilton, 58, from Crosby, Merseyside, has the backing of the RSPCA and the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents.

Pilot receives bravery award

A ROYAL NAVY pilot received the Queeo's Commendation for Bravery in the Air after saving his Sea Harrier when its canopy shattered 40.000ft above the Gulf of Aden. Despite rapid decompression and flying debris, Lieutenant Martin Londoo, based in Yeovilton, descended 37,000ft in 30 seconds.

Man charged in kidnapping case

A MAN was charged with kidnapping and false imprisonment yesterday after the alleged abduction of a woman. The 39-year-old unemployed man from Bath was arrested after Katey Caven, 38, was seeo knocking on the window of a flat in Brixton, south Loodon, early oo Saturday morning.

Three escape plane crash

THREE MEN survived when their light aircraft crashed on a golf course oear Dublin. Firefighters freed the men from the wreckage after the aircraft came down on the fairway of the 15th hole at Lucan Golf Club. They were taken to Blanchardstown hospital but their injuries were not life-threatening.

Murder arrest

POLICE ARRESTED a mai yesterday in connection with the murder of a barmaid found dead after a New Year's Eve party. Kerry Scott. 24, was last seen walking home from a pub in Waterlooville, Hampshire.

£9.3m winner

ONE TICKET won Saturday's 29.3m National Lottery draw with the numbers 4, 31, 33, 38, 41 and 46. Sixteen tickets with five oumbers and the boous, 22, each won £178,943.

Viagra Corner

DISPATCHES FROM THE FRONTIERS OF MEDICINE

A RIVAL to Viagra may be launched in Britain in the next few months. The manufacturer of Vasomax claims its drug begins to work after half

an hour, compared with Viagra's one hour start-up time. US pharmaceutical giant Schering Plough is hopeful that the Government's Medicines Control Agency will

award a licence to market Vasomax by April. The drug has already been n sale in Mexico for three months, having undergone successful clinical trials there. The manufacturer is also seeking permission to

market the drug in America. Both drugs help impotent men to achieve and sustain erections, but they work in different ways. Viagra acts on an enzyme that regulates blood flow to the penis. Vasomax, an alpha blocker, stops nerve impulses that control the tiny muscles surrounding blood



Schering Plough says that its product has another advantage over Viagra - it can be used my men who take nitrate drugs for angina and heart conditions.

The launch of the new drug seems unlikely to bring down the high cost of restoring potency - at least for the time being. Vasomax is expected to cost £4-£5 for each 40 milligram tablet, while Viagra sells for £4.84 per tablet.

NICK SCHOON



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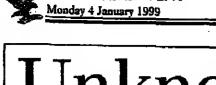
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Unknown who may be the political sensation of 1999

SHE IS 38. She is married with two children. She is unknown to the general public. And in just over five months, she may be one of the most famous politicians in Britain, Caroline Lucas stands an excellent chance of hecoming the first British Green Party member to win a seat in the elections to the European Parliament.

The introduction of proportional representation in the June poll means that after 25 years as the Cinderellas of British politics, the Greens could at last go to the political ball in the assemblies of Brussels and Strasbourg.

Thanks to the forthcoming closed-list system of PR, in several of Britain's 11 new European electoral regions the Greens are in with a chance of at least one of 89 seats on offer, and Dr Lucas, an Oxfam policy adviser, stands the best pursuit of economic growth, chance of all. Not only does the electoral arithmetic work best for her - under the new system she needs only 8.3 per cent of the vote in her South-East re- a state-guaranteed basic ingion to get elected - she is regarded by many observers as an outstanding candidate for a

BY MICHAEL MCCARTHY **Environment Correspondent**

tinctly cranky Dr Lucas is a radical, but a reassuring radical. She has a long history of involvement with CND, the women's movement and Third World issues, as well as holding many senior posts in the Green Party itself, but she is also well-presented and engaging, married with a family and holding down a responsi-

Ask her why anyone should vote Green and she replies: "Because there's no better way of putting pressure on the other parties to put environmental and social issues at the top of the agenda than hy getting some Greens elected."

The Greens are against European monetary union, global free trade, the relentless and nuclear weapons. They favour stronger animal welfare controls, no new roads, green taxes to replace income tax and

Their election would give renewed political significance to party whose policies have in environmental issues, which the past been seen as dis- are regarded by the Govern-



Caroline Lucas (above) and the seats the party could win

ment's engine room, the 10 tional joke-very much against Downing Street Policy Unit, as the international trend. Green worth very few votes for Tony Blair's re-election in 2002, compared with the economy, health and education. They would also provide a property radical Finland. alternative for Labour voters

stolen the Tories' clothes. Handled properly, the June poll could mean a significant comeback for a party that in the past decade has succeeded only in marginalising itself by internal squabbles, and at its worst moments becoming a na-

feeling Tony Blair has merely

parties are thriving across Europe and are members of national coalition governments in France, Germany, Italy and

The Greens reached their British high point in the European elections of 1989, when they secured a remarkable 15 per cent of the national vote and made environmental issues politically significant for the first time. But Britain's first-past-the-post electoral system denied them any seats. charity, Forum for the Future)

John Lawrence Their biggest electoral suc-

> on local councils (they hold 29). Furthermore, after 1989 the party proceeded to implode. Its two hest-known and most charismatic faces, Jonathon Porritt and Sarah Parkin, led a movement to try to turn it into a streamlined electionfighting machine hut were defeated by grassroots activists suspicious of a powerful "centre". Both dropped out of active politics (they now share the running of an environmental

EURO ELECTIONS: GREENS WITH A CHANCE SCOTLAND Robin Harper Needs: 11.1 NORTH WEST Needs: 9.1 NORTH EAST Dr Nic Best Needs: 20 YORKS & HUMBER Needs. 12.5 **EAST MIDLANDS** Needs: 16.7 WEST MIDLANDS Needs: 11.1 Molly Scott Cato Needs: 16.7 Margaret Wright Needs: 11.13 Jean Lambert Needs: 9.1 SOUTH EAST Green vote in local elections May 98 (%): Needs: 8.3 SOUTH WEST Needs: 12.5

and since then the party are asked who they would vote has faded from the national

consciousness. Now it does not even have a leader, a position that remains anathema to the party grassroots. Instead it has two Principal Speakers, who are Jean Lambert, a part-time teacher from London, and Mike Woodin, a psychology tutor at Balliol College, Oxford, and an Oxford city councillor. Both are able and experienced figures, backed up by an experienced executive committee, a small hut professional secretariat and nearly 5,000 committed, paid-up members,

Under the closed-list system cesses to date have been seats voters choose a party rather than a person, with the parties drawing up their own lists of candidates. Seats in each region are then allocated according to the proportion of

votes each party wins. The percentage required to win one seat varies in the 11 regions from a high of 20 per cent to a low of 8.3 per cent. This latfigure, and some others, look distinctly achievable to the

In national polls, the Green Party is nowhere: when people

for in the next election it is lumped in with "others" and does not even register. But in local elections, the picture is very different. Last May in the 240 seats where it stood outside

London, it averaged 7.07 per

cent of the vote, up from 4.88

per ceot in 1997, and in some areas it did very much better. In the South-East Euro region, where the party needs only 8.3 per cent of the vote to send Dr Lucas off to Brussels, it averaged 9.88 per cent in the 47 seats in which it fielded

> And in the London region, where the party needs only 9.1 per cent of the vote to make Jean Lambert an MEP, it averaged 10.05 per cent in the 257 seats in which it stood.

"When you see what the Labour Party's performance on the environment has been to date, it's increasingly clear that you need to elect Greens to put pressure on them to deliver," Dr Lucas said.

"Our overriding message to people is that there's no better time to vote Green, and that a Green vote is no longer a wasted vote."

People want a quick

HOME NEWS/9

BY RHYS WILLIAMS

AN INCREASING reliance on drugs, liberation from mass merchandising and technoparanoia are some of the trends predicted for the coming year

by an advertising executive. Futurologist Marian Salzman, a director in the worldwide advertising agency Young and Rubicam, highlights several trends for the year ahead in a book to be published this week called Next: A Vision of Our Lives in the Future.

In education she predicts greater parental involvement. In America, for example, up to 1.6 million children are now being schooled at home. "The push to prepare our children for the new millennium results in a surge in everything from home schooling to educational software and private tutors." she says.

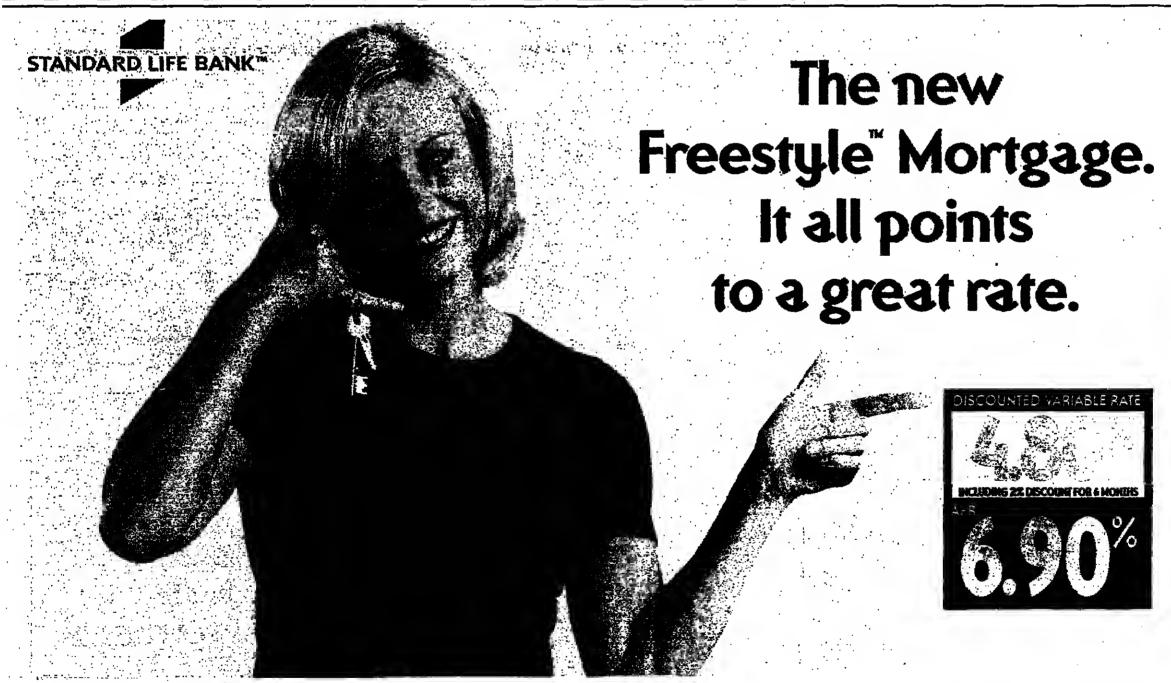
Self reliance will continue after school. She says the decline of the welfare state and job security will encourage self help and entrepreneurship.

She predicts people will become more sceptical about the mass of information they receive via new technology.

And while mass merchandising will have its place, the drift is towards personalised products - from do-it-yourself beauty treatments to herbal remedies and home DIY.

Ms Salzman predicts that the moral high ground will become the new source of conflict. Witness, she says, the murder of abortion providers in the US and the more extreme acts of animal liberation activists. "We'll see extremists wrest control of issues from those who would tend toward compromise and moderatioo."

And if the pre-millennial tension becomes too much, then consumers will turn to pills. "Whether it's Viagra, Prozac or miracle diet drugs, it's all part of our growing intolerance for anything but the quickest of fixes," she says.



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Bomb aimed at Pakistani PM kills four

BY MARCUS TANNER

NAWAZ SHARIF, the Prime Minister of Pakistan, narrowly escaped assassination yesterday when a bomb exploded under a bridge shortly before he was due to cross it, killing four

The bridge, two miles from Mr Sharif's private residence in Raiwind, was destroyed in the explosion, which was heard for miles around. The bomb went off around the time he and his family were expected to cross on their way from Lahore, the capital of Punjab, 13 miles away.

The Prime Minister's life was saved when he delayed his departure from his house in Lahore. He and his family were still there at the time of the blast and they later flew to Raiwind by helicopter.

The government called the explosion an "act of terrorism" while police said they believed that a political party formerly allied with Mr Sharif was behind the act. Three civilians and a police officer were killed, and three other policemen were wounded.

Police said they suspected the Muttahida Qami Movement, an Urdu-speaking party. There were reports that three



Nawaz Sharif: Narrowty escaped assassination

rested in Karachi, more than 600 miles to the south, in Sindh province. Mr Sharif's Pakistan Muslim League has been at odds with the MQM for some time over the worsening chaos in Sindh province.

The government has blamed the MQM for inciting violence in Karachi, a city of 14 million, which has been controlled by the MQM since the mid-1980s. More than 1,000 people died in political and religious violence there last year.

The MQM, which represents Urdu-speakers who fled the communal violence in India at the time of independence in

and has accused the government of waging "terrorism" against its supporters.

In November last year, the government set up military courts to try people held responsible for violence in Karachi. They also suspended the provincial government of Sindh and the region is now ruled by the army and the federal government.

Officials said the Prime Minister was unruffled by the attack. "Our Prime Minister is a brave man," the Information minister, Mushahid Hussain, said. "I have just talked to him, he is unshaken. In fact he is more concerned about those who died and were wounded in

Mr Sharif, 49, has emerged as the country's most powerful leader in decades. He became the first industrialist to head a Pakistani government in November 1990 after Benazir Bhutto was sacked by the former president Ghulam Ishaq Khao. In 1993, Sharif was also sacked by Ishaq Khan.

He was reinstated by the Supreme Court but later resigned in a deal that led to new elections, won by Bhutto. He then led his party to a landslide



'Down with America' was the main slogan at a rally by Islamic civil servants and factory workers yesterday in the Iranian capital, Tehran Mohammad Sayyad/AP

Bin Laden admits role in terrorism

OSAMA BIN LADEN, the alleged BY MARY DEJEVSKY terrorist blamed by Washington for the bombing of US embassies in Nairobi and Dar es Salaam last summer, has said in a rare interview that neither of the two men being held for the attacks was involved in the bombings and accused the CIA of using the arrests to cover up

its intelligence failures. But he failed to deny his involvement in terrorism, insisting that acquiring weapons of any variety, including chemical and nuclear weapons was a Muslim "religious duty".

"If the instigation for jihad [holy war] against the Jews and the Americans... is considered a crime, then let history be a witness that I am a criminal, he said. "Our job is to instigate," he said, "and, by the grace of God, we did that, and certain people responded to this instigation."

Mr bin Laden, who is second only to the Iraqi leader, President Saddam Hussein, on the list of American bogeymen, was interviewed for Time magazine by a Pakistani journalist, Rahimullah Yusufazi.

To conduct the interview. reported in today's issue of the magazine, Mr Yusufazi says he was approached out of the blue hy associates of Mr bin Laden on 22 December and taken by car to a encampment in the Afghan desert near the Pakistan border.

Asked about the two men now in US custody in connection with the Kenyan and Tanzanian embassy bombings. Wadih el-Hage and Mohamad Rashed al-Owhali, Mr bin Laden said be was confident they would be exonerated. He admitted Wadih el-Hage had been associated with him at one time, as "one of our hrothers whom God was kind enough to steer to the path of relief work for Afghan refugees", but said: "He has nothing to do with the US allegations." Of al-Owhali, he denied any direct knowledge.

He said: "The fact of the matter is that America, and in particular the CIA, wanted to cover up its failure in the aftermath in Washington

Riyadh, Nairobi, Dar Es Salaam, Capetown, Kampala and other places. God willing. in the future - by arresting any person who had participated in the Islamic Jihad in Afghanistan."

Asked about reports that he had attempted to obtain chemical and even nuclear weapons. Mr bin Laden seemed to be trying to keep Washington guessing. "Acquiring weapons for the defence of Muslims is a religious duty." he said. "If I have indeed acquired these weapons, then I thank God for



Defiant: Osama bin Laden

enabling me to do so ... It would be a sin for Muslims not to try to possess the weapons that would prevent the infidels from inflicting harm on Muslims."

The interview appears to be an attempt by Mr bin Laden to promote his message and simultaneously to taunt the US for its failure to find him.

Mr bin Laden has been in hiding since the embassy bombings and has frustrated all American attempts to track him down.

In August be escaped a retaliatory US bomb attack on a camp in southern Afghanistan believed to be his beadquarters. Washington subsequently denied involvement in attempts to kill him. The magazine said Mr hin Laden used a walking stick because of a bad back and was nursing a sore throat but said I of the events that took place in he denied his health was poor.

Saddam urges Iraqis to resist no-fly zones

SADDAM HUSSEIN condemned By DOMINIC EVANS as illegal the Western "no-fly" zones imposed over northern and southern Iraq and said yesterday his people would resist them with "bravery and courage".

The Iraqi news Agency said President Saddam, maintaining Iraq's recent strong challenge to the no-fly zones, told his cabinet they were "flagrant and clear-cut violations of international laws, accords and and southern Shia regions.

in Baghdad

norms, particularly the United Nations charter".

The statement was his first public comment on the recent clashes between Iraqi air defence units and warplanes pawere set up by Western forces

Iraq has repeatedly challenged the no-fly zones since the end of a four-day campaign of air strikes launched by United States and British forces two

weeks ago. Senior Iraqi officials have said Baghdad will continue to defy the no-fly zones and an trolling the zones. The zones Iraqi government newspaper yesterday predicted the conafter the 1991 Gulf War to limit frontation with Washington and the skies of an independent his power in northern Kurdish London would worsen after a country, and why have they

President Saddam de- this country for eight years of four Arab countries held se-cribed the no-fly zones as "an without a UN resolution per- cret talks at the weekend to try scribed the no-fly zones as "an aggressive operation, which violates the will of the Arab people and the Iraqi people, which rejects them and is determined to resist them with all bravery

and courage. "Arabs and just people all over the world are asking what these planes are doing, flying in been violating the air space of

mitting this," the Iraqi agency quoted him as saying. He also criticised Arab na-

tions for delaying until 24 January a summit at which the US-British attacks on Iraq would have been on the agenda, saying the delay was deliberately intended to reduce any sense of urgency in tackling the air strikes.

In Egypt, foreign ministers Arab ranks. (Reuters

Cairo. Diplomats said the ministers agreed to lobby the Arab League to put off a meet-ing on Iraq indefinitely for fear that it would only further split

cret talks at the weekend to try

to forge a strategy on Iraq.

The ministers from Saudi Ara-

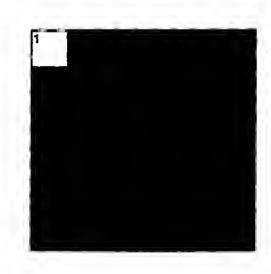
bia, Syria and Yemen met at the

invitation of Egypt's Foreign

Minister, Amr Moussa, at

Hurghada, 255 miles south of

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Clinton adds \$100bn to arms budget

PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON BY MARY DEJEVSKY has proposed the biggest increase in US defence spending since the end of the Cold War in a weekend announcement critics say is linked to his impending impeachment trial.

In his weekly radio address. the first of the new year, Mr Clinton said that he would be asking Congress for a \$12bn (£7.5bn) rise in spending on the armed forces in the next financial year

in Washington

(2000), and a total increase of more than \$100bn over the next six years. It will include substantial pay rises for troops.

"We must undertake this effort today so that our nation will remain strong and secure tomorrow," he told his audience, which included US servicemen stationed overseas. "The more

we ask the greater our re- Mr Clinton's announcement was ical". Mr Clinton's announcesponsibility to give our troops the support and training and equipment they need."

Mr Clinton made his announcement on the eve of tomorrow's meeting of the Senate Armed Services committee the first of the new Congress which is to discuss US military

The committee chairman, John Warner, said the timing of

"very clever", but said that it "falls way short" of the needs of the armed forces as estimated by the Joint Chiefs of Staff last year, and that Congress would probably increase the sums sought by Mr Clinton.

A Pentagon official quoted by The Washington Post said, however, that the increase proposed by Mr Clinton would cover most of the needs regarded as "crit-

ment was also seen as reflecting two further considerations: a year-long campaign by the Pentagon and the Defense Secretary, William Cohen, to convince Mr Clinton that spending on the military was perilously low, and the Senate decision expected this week on how it will proceed with the President's

impeachment. The US top brass has com-

plained for months that military budgets are too low. There were reports of flight training hours being cut because of fuel shortages, of equipment replacement running behind schedule and the need for large pay increases for officers. Despite the reported success of last month's US-British air attacks on Iraq. military morale is reported to be

But the promise of higher de-

fence spending was also seen as one component in extensive White House lobbying designed to "square" individual constituencies in advance of the new

Congressional session. Mr Clinton has used the past two weeks to give assurances to a host of different interests, including those concerned to secure housing for the low-paid. pensioners, and now the allimportant military.

Relations between Mr Clinton and the armed forces have been difficult because of his reported Vietnam draft-dodging and his allowing gavs to serve. The perceived double standard between his behaviour with Monica Lewinsky ta junior White House employee) and the punishment meted out to adulterous and lying servicemen has only exacerbated the ill-feeling on the part of the military.

UN fury as second plane is shot down in Angola

THE UN Secretary-General BY DAVID USBORNE Kofi Annan said he was outraged by the shooting down of a second UN-chartered aircraft over Angola within eight

The downing on Saturday of the C-130 cargo aircraft with eight people on board is the latest indication that a peace accord brokered by the UN in 1994 between Unita and the government is rapidly unrav-

In New York, Mr Annan said: "All threats to UN personnel in the air and on the ground must cease immediately." In a statement, he called on the Angolan government and Unita to declare "an immediate

ceasefire which will permit the conduct of search-and-rescue missions, as well as the relocation of United Nations staff to safer areas",

The aircraft was part of an evacuation effort to withdraw UN personnel and equipment from the central city of

crash off the coast of Nova

Scotia say the crew may have

deliberately switched off the

plane's two flight recorders to

isolate electrical problems

causing smoke in the cockpit.

on the flight from New York to

All 229 passengers and crew

in New York

About 100 UN staff remain in the city. It is in an area held by Unita (National Union for the Total Liberation of Augola). where fighting has recently increased. The plane was hit hy an anti-aircraft missile 20 minutes after take-off. It was carrying four Angolans, two Filipinos, a Namibian and an

On 26 December, another UN-chartered cargo plane with 14 people on hoard, including eight UN peace-keepers, was shot down in the same area. Angola state radio has since

reported that survivors of the earlier crash are being held by Unita rebels. The rebels deny

Last Thursday, the UN Security Council held an emergency meeting to discuss developments in Angola. The council decried the shooting down of the first aircraft and condemned "the incompre-

voice and data recorders had

stopped working six minutes

realise until too late that the

plane was in serious danger.

There is little urgency in their

voices for at least 14 minutes

It is thought the pilots did not

before the crash.

INVESTIGATORS STUDYING Geneva perished Investiga-

last September's Swissair tions showed that the cockpit



Kofi Annan: May cancel the UN's Angola mission

hensible lack of co-operation clarifying the circumstances of this tragedy'

The council asked Mr Annan to decide by 15 January whether all UN peace-keepers should be withdrawn from the country. The UN has some 1,000 observers in Angola, but only a few of these are in areas where fighting is currently under way. Portugal in 1975.

after they first reported notic-

They first considered di-

then decided to land in Halifax,

Nova Scotia, instead. The route

was then lengthened by a de-

cision to circle back out to the

sea to dump fuel. Aviation ex-

perts now say that if they had

verting the flight to Boston but an in-flight entertainment sys-

ing an odd smell.

Mr Annan said yesterday There can be no excuse for further delay on any side in disclosing all relevant information about the fate of the passengers and crews of the two UN air-

Issa Diallo, head of the UN Observer Mission in Angola, defended the decision to proceed with the evacuation. He pointed out that other aircraft, including two chartered by the World Food Programme, had departed from Huambo on Saturday without incident. This suggested UN-chartered aircraft were being singled out. The UN plane asked and got authorisation, takes off and gets shot down," he said.

The UN-brokered peace accord of 1994 was designed to end almost two decades of fighting in Angola. Fears were growing yesterday that the oiland-diamond-rich southern African nation is about to resumes the civil war which started with independence from

landed in Boston the disaster

tem for passengers in first

class, which might have been

the only electrical power not

shut down. Wiring linking It to

the cockpit shows signs of

shorting out and charring.

Investigators are focusing on

might have been averted.

Bees almost cover apiarist Luis Gamboa at a honey promotion in Lima, Peru AP Messiah.

'Violent' US cult members arrested

BY ERIC SILVER in Jerusalem

ISRAELI POLICE yesterday arrested 14 members of an American Christian cult they alleged were planning acts of violence to speed the Second Coming in time for the new millennium. They intend to deport the eight adults and six children as soon as possible.

A police spokesman, Commander Elihu Ben-Onn, said last night: "They planned to carry out violent and extreme acts in the streets of Jerusalem at the end of 1999 to start the process of 'bringing Jesus back to life'. The arrests were carried out to protect certain sectors of the Israeli population and members of the cult themselves, who hlindly follow a leader who is overseas."

The apocalyptic sect, known as Concerned Christians, is hased in Denver, Colorado. Israeli police and secret services have been watching for them since their leader, Monte Kim Miller, and 77 of his followers disappeared from their homes in October.

Mr Miller, 44, prophesied that he would die in Jerusalem in the final days of the 20th century. However, he was not among those arrested yesterday. Israeli sources said that the cult planned to provoke a shoot-out with the police. This would "lead them to Heaven".

been under surveillance for a month, were arrested in a twostorey rented house in the western Jerusalem suburb of Mevasseret Zion. They did not resist. It is not known how many other members of the cult have reached Israel.

Israel expects up to four million Christian pilgrims next year. Security and psychiatric services are on the alert in case any try to provoke a catastrophe to bring back the

Crew 'switched off' Swissair black boxes



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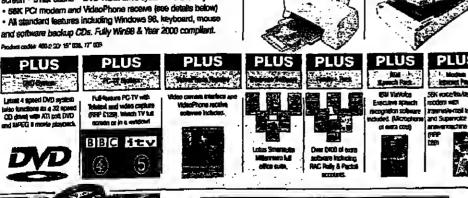
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Last month the agency successfully launched the Mars Climate Orbiter, which is designed to circle Mars and scan its surface from a height of 252 miles. The Lander is scheduled to reach Mars in December after a journey of 416 million miles and touch down close to the planet's permanent ice cap at the southern pole. The craft is

the planet.

Mission to hear winds of Mars

BY DAVID USBORNE in New York

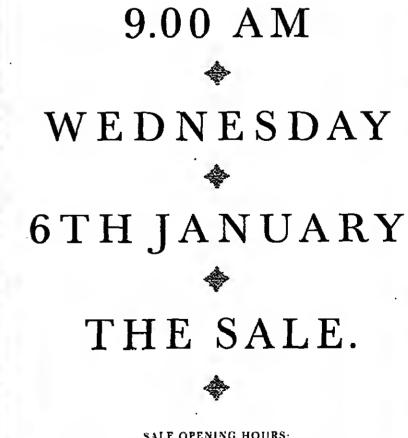
FINAL PREPARATIONS were under way yesterday at Cape launch of the second stage of an unmanned mission to Mars.

The Nasa mission is expected to reveal new information about the planet's composition, the presence of water and even what ooises can be heard on its surface.

The unmanned craft, named the Mars Polar Lander, was due to lift off last night on the back of a Delta 2 rocket. But there was concern that the launch would be delayed because of a rough weather.

Nasa has 25 days to send the probe on its way, to take advantage of a beneficial alignment of the Earth and Mars.

equipped with a mechanical arm to scoop up soil and a camera to survey the landing area. A microphone will allow Nasa scientists for the first time to listen in to wind sounds or any other noises audible on



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Hand-me-down lives of El Meech victims

AFTER MITCH

TEGUCIGALPA

AS USUAL, Rosa Janet Gomez military museum. They are and her three young daughters among 500,000 people Honwere in the San Francisco durans - almost 10 per cent of church this Christmas. But this the population - still homeless year, they were not there for the two months after Mitch's floods Christmas service. They were washed away their houses. sleeping, all four of them, on a Hundreds of thousands of single mattress on the cold, others are living with relatives oust-covered tile floor of a church hall.

The mattress is their home, four cardboard banana cartons women and children sleep around them in a draughty, unheated, windowless hall the size of a suburban living room. At night, they are bitterly cold, huddling together for warmth under charity blankets.

Rosa and her daughters -Francia, nine, Suma, eight, and Jacelyn, three - are among 100 people, 33 of them children, left homeless by Hurricane Mitch and now living in the colonial San Francisco church or the unfurnished halls of

or roughing it in the remains of their battered homes, many without roofs.

"The government has done full of donated clothes their nothing for us. No one has only furniture. A dozen other come here," said Janet, a 28-year-old street vendor.

"Someone came from the mayor's office but they just counted us as if we were animals. We want them to give us hope. I told them we want to work. If we work, we can pay a monthly rent. All we want is a little casita [house]. If they don't give us a house, we'll have to go back to Barrio Abajo and build one ourselves," said Janet.

Barrio Abajo (Low District),



Tegucigalpa residents burn a model symbolising the hurricane, while Rosa Janet Gomez and her family wait for a home AFP/Phil Davison

on 30 October. The government fears thousands will return to dangerous riverside

Thinking I was an official, and that I might help them get

legs, and insisted I write down all their names. When I asked them what happened to their known here as El Meech.

the itch. Pronounced in Spanish, the hurricane will always be

Sprawled on his mattress with his crutch beside him on

floods that swept through here that would give them another their children clutching my a black joke here: "Gone with the floor, Marcos Amador, a onelegged 68-year-old tailor, begged me to find him a job so he could pay for food and some Christmas presents for his children and grandchildren. He lost his right leg in a football accident at the age of 18. "Work

is what I miss most I feel inadequate here. I didn't want to leave my shop but I had to run when the water got up to here,"

> across his shoulders. The 100 refugees, most of them poor from the nearby La Olla district, share a tiny kerosene stove on which to cook donated food and a single water tap to wash themselves or their laundry. Forty per cent of La Olla houses, made of adobe, were swept away by the floodwaters. Another 40 per cent, built of stone, survived but lost roofs and are uninhabitable. Residents have returned to the remainder but would be in grave danger if the river rose again.

he said, drawing his hand

Angela Maria Ardon, a 41year-old Honduran Red Cross volunteer, got on to her tiptoes to point to the mark, 10 feet high, where the muddy river reached in her living room. The only furniture that remains in her house are two faded black-and-white family portraits on a wall in the hall.

Angela, who now helps to look after her fellow refugees in the San Francisco church, was one of the quiet heroes of Mitch. "We got everyone out of La Olia the neighbourhood, roped together like mountaineers, to get people out. When the water got up to our shoulders, we left, too, and headed for the

church," she said. When I visited them before Christmas, keeping a promise made when I left after reporting the devastation of Hurricane Mitch, the San Francisco church refugees were prepar-

ing for a visit by Santa Claus and a Christmas party thrown by well-off foreign teenagers from Tegucigalpa's cosmopolitan American School. The refugees had strung up strands of red-and-green crepe paper around the patio of the flaking Spanish colonial building that houses the church and a former Spanish military barracks, which later became a museum. As they waited for Santa, children clambered over a 1942 Browning machine gun and a 37mm field cannon, the latter captured from Salvadoran troops during the so-called Soccer War of the sixties.

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Rodrigo Banegs, a 41-yearold portrait and landscape painter who had lost his home in the hurricane, had decorated a tiny Christmas tree with silver paper and painted cardboard shapes, alongside a sign saying Feliz Navidad (Merry Christmas). "Come into my apartment," he said, pointing to his mattress, surrounded by paintings he used to sell to tourists for £15 to £20. As his bedhead, he used the one thing he salvaged from the floods the sign outside his home, advertising "Portraits".

And then came Santa. Somewhat surprised by his young eyes - not unlike those of 18year-old American School student Jorge Espinosa - children prodded his bulging belly to check whether it was real. In sharp contrast to the ragged refugee children, the boys and girls from the expensive American School - mostly the sons or daughters of diplomats from around the world - wore crisp uniforms, the girls in white blouses and navy pin-striped

But they were carrying gifts: doughnuts, sweets and two dozen giant Domino's pizzas, so they were most welcome. And they belted out Christmas carols in English as Santa handed out the presents - mostly handme-downs from the rich schoolkids who had held a "toy drive" for the storm victims.

"This is so sad. Honduras was badly off before Mitch. And look at these kids' conditions now," said Linda Taylor, 16-year-old daughter of an American diplomat, "But at least we're doing something for them, giving them something resembling Christmas."

She was right. Away from the crowd, in her "home" - on her mauress - little Jacelyn Gomez could not have cared less about Mitch. Her face painted by the remnants of a slice of pepperoni pizza - her Christmas dinner - she chatted contentedly to her new friend, a secondhand, Chinese-made doll called Sporty Jennifer. Jennifer once belonged to a rich girl but Jacelyn neither knew nor cared about that.



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TV FROM THE HEART

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d cannon, the latter from Salvaduran ing the so-called So the sixtles o Banegs, a +- year ait and landstap he had lost his home icane, had decorated aristmas tree with er and painted carr pes, alongs de a sia tiz Navided Mem s). Come into my

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he used to sell in or \$15 to \$20 As he he used the and thing ed from the floods atside lus home de Portraits" in came Sama, Some prised by his dang t unlike those of the umerican School ag e Espinosa - olologic his buiging to the pa ether it was an L strast to the lasted hildren, the beauty the expens - the pol - mosta - ... ers of distance of the le World - v. . .

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Business & City Editor, Jeremy Warner News desk: 0171-293 2636 Fax: 0171-293 2098 E-mail: IndyBusiness@Independent.co.uk

BUSINESS

BRIEFING

IMF 'must improve crisis handling'

THE INTERNATIONAL Monetary Fund must improve crisis management in the world financial system, Stanley Fischer, the Fund's deputy managing director, said last night. "We can surely do better in reducing the frequency and intensity of emerging market financial crises ... than we have in the last five years," he said.

International lenders could insist that countries wanting loans met certain conditions, such as releasing economic and financial data on a more frequent and timely basis, be said. Lenders could also offer contingency loans to supplement the reserves of countries threatened by a crisis but not yet in one.

Kirch empire split into three



LEO KIRCH, the German media mogul (pictured). has completed the longawaited restructuring of his empire into three bolding companies, opening the way to a possible partnership with Rupert Murdoch's News Corp and Silvio Berinsconi'a

Taurus Film is to control Mr Kirch's film and television production and

the trade and use of television rights, which includes the rights to two future football World Cups. Pay Co will handle the group's digital and pay-TV activities, while a third company will incorporate the publisher Springer-Verlag and the Sat1 broadcaster. A spokesman for Mr Kirch yesterday said further details would be announced this week.

CWC signs £100m Vodafone deal

CABLE &WIRELESS Communications (CWC) is today set to announce a deal to supply Vodafone with additional network capacity as the boom in mobile phone users

The contract is worth more than £100m over the next five years to CWC, which is spending £400m upgrading its national network. CWC said its upgraded network would be capable of dealing with the next generation of mobile phones that vill be able to offer video and high-speed internet acces

Vodafone, the UK's higgest mobile phone group, is also due to reveal its fourth-quarter customer figures

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FTSE 250	4854,70	41.90	0.87	5970.9	4247.6	4.758
FTSE 350	2772,40	9.90	0.36	2969.1	2210.4	3.427
FTSE All Share	2673.91	10.18	0.38	2886,52	2143.53	3.478
FTSE SmallCap	2070.94	18.50	0,90	2793.8	1834.4	4.056
FTSE Fledgling	1146,40	10.60	0.93	1517.1	1046.2	0.004
FTSE AIM	801.60	9.50	1.20	1146.9	761.3	0.002
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Dow Jones	9181.43	-36.56	-0.40	9380,2	7400.3	1.63
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Index	3 month	Yr chg	1 year	Yr chg	10 year	Yr chg	Long bon	d Yr chg
UK	6,26	-1.43	5.63	-2.06	4.36	-1.93	4.27	-1.97
υ5	5.07	-0.75	5.10	-0.87	4.65		5.10	
Japen	0.54	-0.23	0.58	-0.15	2.22	0.27	2.97	0.40
Germany	3.22	-0.42	3.20	-0.73	3.87	-1,49	4.78	-1.17

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-0.40 104.40 \$ Index 104.70 -0.50 109.10

OTHER INDICATORS Index City Yr ago Next figs Close Will's de Vrago GDP 115.40 3.00 112.04 Dec Brent Oil (5) 10.57 0.61 15.94 Gold (5) 288.25 1.30 289.05 RPI 164.40 .3.00 159.61 Dec

5.01 0.10 S.99 Gase Rates 6.25 7.25

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T	DURIS	TRAILS	-
Australia (5)	2.6493	Mexican (nuevo peso)	14.91
Austria (schillings)	19.13	Netherlands (guilders)	3.0678
Belgium (francs)	56.26	New Zealand (5)	3.0661
Canada (S)	2.5375	Norway (krone)	12.34
Cyprus (pounds)	0.8048	Portugal (escudos)	278.08
Denmark (krone)	10,43	Saudi Arabia (rials)	6.1173
Finland (markka)	8.3053	Singapore (5)	2.6586
France (francs)	9.1352	Spain (pesetas)	231.60
Germany (marks)	2.7362	South Africa (rands)	9.4978
Greete (drachma)	458.85	Sweden (krone)	13,27
Hong Kong (S)	12.61	Switzerland (francs)	2.2346
	1.0946	Thailand (bahts)	56.39
Ireland (punts)	64.18	Turkey (Ilrasi)	507854
Indian (rupees)	6.4941	USA (\$)	1.6399
Israel (shekels)	2711		
Italy (I:ra)	189,63	Rates for indication purpo	ses only
Japan (yen)	6 1169		

Source: Thomas Cook

6.1169

0.6110

Malaysia (ringgits)

MPC expected to hold Griffin traders back from rate change

BY NIGEL COPE Associate City Editor

LEADING CITY economists expect the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee to leave interest rates unchanged when it meets later this week, although most anticipate that the introduction of the euro will help push rates down sharply later.

Economists say the committee will adopt a "wait and see" policy until more data becomes available on key indicators such as December's retail sales figures and the fourth quarter GDP figures, which are not available until after this month's meeting.

Steve Bell, head of research at Deutsche Morgan Grenfell, said: "We think the committee will keep rates on hold this time. But if they don't move at all in January, they are likely to cut by half a point in February."

Michael Hughes, group economic adviser at ING Barings Asset Management, agreed. "It would make sense to assess the data that will come through during January and then make an adjustment next month," he said. The MPC starts its two-day

meeting on Wednesday, following last month's half-point cut to 6.25 per cent. One key factor pushing interest rates lower is the lower level of rates among the countries in the "euro zone".

British rates are expected to gradually converge with those in the euro zone where interest rates are currently fixed at 3 per cent. The European Central Bank will also meet on Thursday but is expected to leave rates unchanged. Some economists say that the

UK picture has been clouded by November's surprise rise in retail sales figures. However, the British Retail Consortium yesShoppers have been out in force during the January sales, but the level of spending is still unclear

Christmas sales should not distract MPC members from the underlying weakness in consumer spending.

Ann Grain, a spokesman for the BRC, said: "However good the winter sales are, they will not make up for what went before. Retailers have had a very poor October and November and consumer confidence is still very weak. We would still call for another rate cut,"

The BRC said that anecdotal evidence suggested that while British shoppers have been out terday repeated its call for lower in force during the sales, it is not rates saying a late surge in clear whether this has trans-

transactions. Meadowhall, the out-of-town shopping centre near Sheffield, said trading yesterday had been quieter than previous days but blamed the dip on heavy snowfall.

In London, the general manager of Selfridges, the depart-ment store, said trading had been encouraging. David Wilkin-son said trading had been "phenomenal" in certain sectors. Trading vesterday was "steady" following some days of record customer footfall over the Christmas/New Year period. The MPC will look at this

lated into a higher number of week's economic surveys before reaching its conclusion. The Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply publishes its monthly reports on the manufacturing and service sectors today and tomorrow.

On Wednesday, the Engineering Employers Federation is expected to produce another downbeat report on business trends. Further evidence of consumer spending will come when retailers start issuing Christmas trading statements. Goldsmiths, the jewellery retailer at the centre of takeover speculation, will report its figures today.

Yesterday the company said it had no knowledge of any plans by the management to take the company private. Goldsmiths share have risen shrply in the past week on epeculation of a possible deal,

Seperately, the Manpower quarterly study of employment prospects, published today, shows that job prospects are the worst for five years. The study shows that the overall trend mirrors the last recession, with job prospects deteriorating in all three sectors - public sector. service sector and manufacturing - for the first time.

threaten to DTB

By Andrew Garfield Financial Editor

TRADERS HIT by the Griffin Futures collapse are warning that business will decamp wholesale from London to Frankfurt's Deutsche Terminborse (DTB1 if the City authorities fail to help them get back into business within the next few days.

One trader, who is outraged hy what she terms the arrogance of the authorities, said yesterday: "The DTB's marketing department must he licking its chops.

"Nobody is going to use Liffe (the London futures market) if they [the DTB] copy the US system and allow proper segregation of client accounts.

Questions were this weekend being asked about the role of Mr Park's brokers, Tullet and Tokyo.

One trader said: "Normally a hroker is aware of the usual size in which a trader would deal. Why didn't anyone at Tullet's think it strange that Mr Park had 9,000 DTB lots when he had told Griffin be had 900, and pick up the phone?

At least 80 independent futures traders working in London have been put out of husiness after the firm through which they cleared their trades, Griffin Trading Company, was brought down hy the trading losses of John

The Korean-horn trader lost £6.25m just hefore Christmas after his bet on the German futures market went spectacularly wrong. Traders are angry that the money they deposited with the firm in order to be able to trade has been used to cover Mr Park's

In contrast to the usual ractice in other major mar kets, London allows net margining, which means that the money deposited by each client in effect goes in the same pot.

One trader said yesterday that money they bad deposited with Griffin's American parent, which sought bankruptcy last week, was still

"What Liffe and the London Clearing House should be saying is that we stand by the market," said the trader. "No individual trader should he

unable to resume trading. "They should also pledge to lobby the Financial Services Authority to change the rulea so that this cannot bappen again. This has opened up a large Pandora's box. What if, instead of John Park, it was the XY pension fund that lost the

money?" Mr Park, who has an American passport, has not been seen since last week. He has not been at his London flat or

Rebel investor seeks EGM to oust Tay board

A REBEL investor in Tay Homes its way. They are unhappy about construction group Taylor is expected to step up its battle to oust the bousebuilder's board today by requisitioning an extraordinary general meeting.

Sunley, an unquoted property and investment group that owns just over 10 per cent of Tay, says it has the backing of fund manager Phillips & Drew -Tay's largest shareholder which holds about 15 per cent. It also claims other institutional shareholders are equally dissatisfied

with Tay's recent performance. Shares in Tay Homes have collapsed over the past year, falling from 142.5p in March to close last week at 107.5p. Other shareholders include Fidelity, which owns about 10 per cent. and Foreign Colonial, which has a 7 per stake.

The dissident investors have accused the company of losing

its high level of gearing, high overheads and low operating margin. They say the incumbent management has failed and that a new strategy is needed.

However, Tay has rejected previous calls by Sunley for a management overhaul, accusing it of trying to win control of a rival company without paying a premium. Tay said it has enough shareholder support to see off the rebel.

Sunley has criticised Tay's record during the recent slowdown in the North, focusing on its low returns in relation to other quoted housebuilders. It has put forward four can-

didates for the board, including its joint chief executive, Richard Tice, as chief executive to replace John Swanson. Peter Hedges, a former director of the

them. Yet the weight-of-money

New York will at least edge fur-

ther ahead, and growing in-

vestor confidence are likely to

Rough says: "Confidence on

up strongly as governments and

businesses are seen by investors

as having successfully managed

and weathered what many com-

mentators expected to be the

worst period since the great de-

There should be some eco-

nomic recovery, probably in the

second half of the year, and

lower base rates, which could fall

to 5 per cent, should help hard-

pressed exporters. However, the

As Legal & General's David

fuel share progress.

Woodrow, has been put forward to take over from Tay's chairman Norman Stubbs.

It is also proposing Stewart Urry, a former managing director of Belgravia Property, for the post of finance director and Tim Walter, a former finance director of Five Oaks Investments, as a non-executive director. Sunley has been building up

its stake in Tay Homes since last summer when Trevor Spencer, who co-founded Tay with Mr Stubbs, retired, and Mr Stubbs was promoted from chief executive to chairman. Mr Swanson replaced Mr Stubbs as chief executive at the same time.

Sunley, which operates in the South-east, maintains it is not attempting any form of

Small firms fail to take up New Deal

ALMOST HALF the country's small firms are confused about the Government's flagship New Deal jobs scheme, according to a survey published today. Many complain that job centres either fail to contact them or send inappropriate candidates to

The Federation of Small Businesses said its poll of 1,800 husiness owners found the take-up of small firms under the scheme was "disappointing".

However, the Department for Education and Employment hit back, saying the survey was encouraging in key aspects, including a high awareness of the New Deal among small

The poll showed that just 15 per cent had been contacted by their local job centre about the New Deal, even though two out of three found the scheme ap-

pealing because of the subsidy offered to employers to take on an unemployed worker. The Federation said job cen-

tres should be privatised if the "disappointing performance" continued. Employment spokesman Dr Bernard Juby said: "The survey

suggests new impetus is needed to get New Deal working for small businesses. "Although it is early days, a time limit should be given to get

things working smoothly. If it cannot make the grade, the Employment Service has prime high street locations which would be attractive to the private sector."

Employers are offered a £60a-week subsidy to take on New Dealers, and £75-a-week for older long-term unemployed. More than 3,500 employers have signed up to the scheme.

And the closing Footsie number will be...

BY DEREK PAIN

FORECASTING IS a hazardous exercise but each year the City's army of stock market strategists puts its collective head on the chopping block to offer thoughts about the direction of shares.

Complaints that the coming 12 months are particularly difficult to predict invariably accompany the forecasts. This year is no exception.

Even so the estimates, some confident but mostly hesitant, are again flowing. Many expect blue chips to make further headway although there seems to be little support for under-performing second and third liners, with talk that it could be years before they return to the heart of the stock market.

What is clear is that company profits are unlikely to show much in the way of growth. Yet few dividends are expected to be cut or pegged.

arrival of the euro could distort the performance of the pound. So, on the surface, predictions With little or even no earnings growth mega-mergers are exthat Footsie could end 1999 pected to continue as companies around the 6,800 points mark have a rather unreal ring to combine — cuddling together to

keep warm - to get more marargument, expectations that keting muscle and cut costs.

The annual game of predicting the next 12 months and FTSE level for the

end of 1999 is on, but this year analysts are even more hesitant than usual

Low inflation should also underpin equities, and falling interest rates should prompt movement from deposits into shares as investors, big and small, seek to retain and even both sides of the Atlantic will pick increase yields.

The birth of Euroland, with 11 countries using the euro as currency, is not expected to have much short-term influence on the British investment scene. As time goes on what will eventually be the second largest stock market in the world will. of course, impact on London with one possibility being a bigger two-way investment flow. Certainly, the growing temp-

tation for British fund managers to invest in European stocks will increase. But there is every chance that the greater cash flow will be in the opposite direction with more British stocks attracting Continental interest.

aspect of the forecasting round is the failure of the stock market's under card to gain much support. The Small Cap index has under-performed the All Share index by a staggering 40 per cent in two years. Richard Jeffrey at Charterhouse Tilney is one of the few spotting a glimmer of hope --- be reckons there

could be something of a revival

in the middle of the year.

Possibly the most worrying

At this time a year ago, little hope was beld out for the little'uns. The general view was that the Lords of Footsie would hit the high spots but the rest would dilly and dally and miss the party. Despite achieving new highs in the first half of the year, the stock market undercard performed in line with

expectations. The ragged and sad undercard display should, I feel, worry the Stock Exchange powers. The yawning gap between the

powerful and the rest could be the stock market's Achilles heel, creating growing disenchantment among small investors who provide much of the investment seed corn, as well as unsettling small companies whose management perceive their capitalisation to be derisory The most optimistic Footsie

forecast I have come across is HSBC's 6,800 points for the year end. Chase Manhattan is shrouded in gloom, shooting for 5,400. Most are over 6,000 with the consensus suggesting the millennium will start with the Footsie at 6,250.

Among the other more adventurous souls are SG Securities on 6,700; Warburg Dillon Read 6,600; ABN Amro and Dresdner Kleinwort Benson both at 6,500 and Lehman Brothers 6,400. A clutch on 6,300 include BT Alex, Brown, L&G and

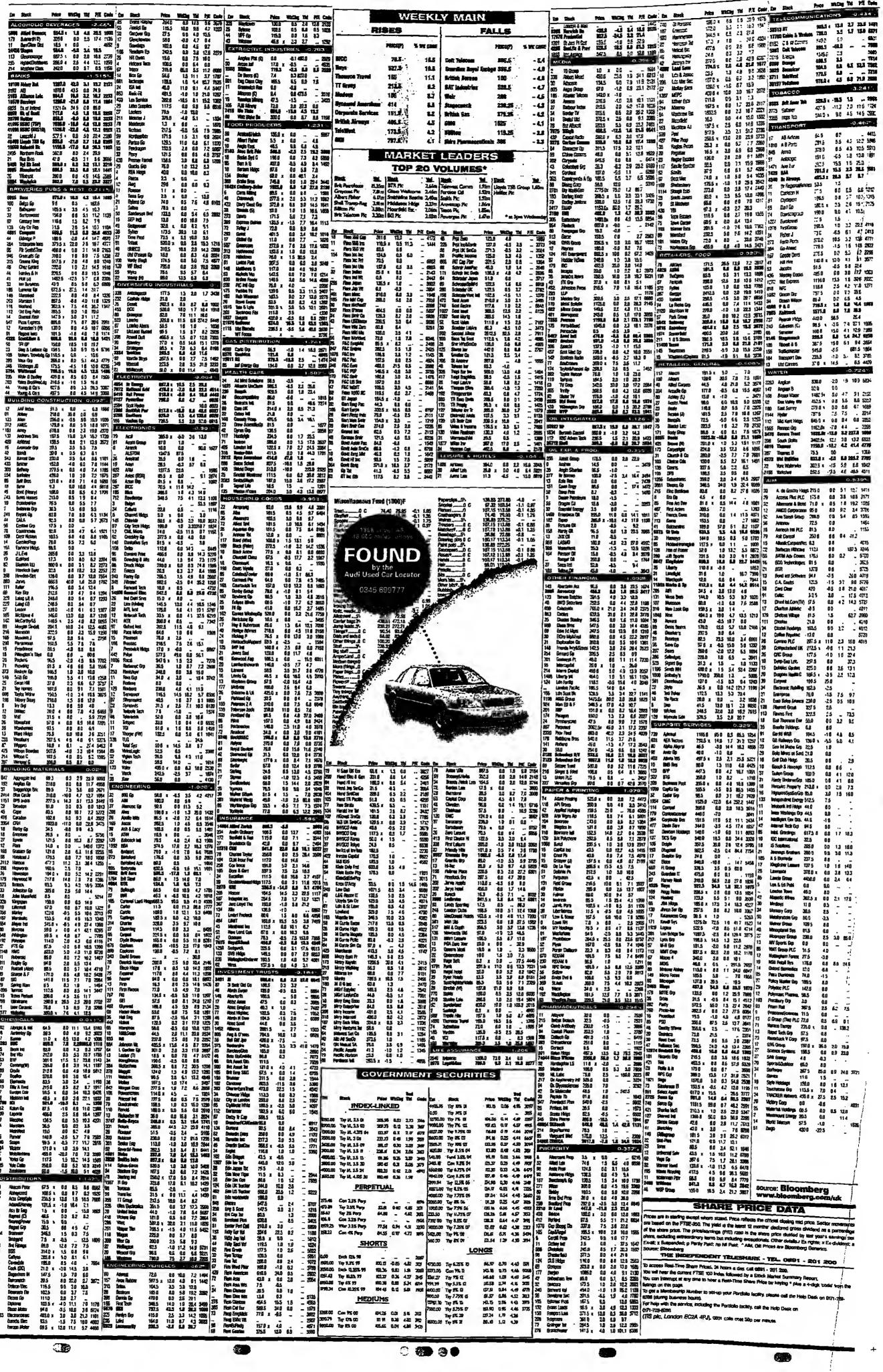
gists are being overly cautious. When the millennium arrives I would hope to see Footsie above 7,000 — a level BT Alex Brown suggest for the following December. My forecast for the year just ending was 5.600.

There is a general acceptance that stock market conditions will be particularly volatile. This will stem from the overall investment scene as well as the sharp fluctuations often produced by trading on the computerised order book. L&G, for example, see the index swinging between 6,500 and 5,200.

Still, predicting the closing 1999 Footsie is a precise science that it is unrealistic to expect to achieve. As L&G suggest: "A few hundred points plus or minus makes a lot of difference to the total return achieved in 1998 and to the prospective return of

"But, in the real scheme of things, the direction of markets is far more important than their absolute value on one day at the

HE INDEPENDENT Monday 4 January 1999



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THE HADEL FIADERS Monday 4 January 1999

The last EMU before global union?

brating the introduction of the euro with an exhibition about earlier monetary unions in the coins and medals department until 10 January. It provides ammunition for both the advocates and the opponents of today's Economic and Monetary Union (EMU).

As the museum says: "From the European century BC to the beginning of the third millennium AD, economic and monetary union has a long history."

Some monetary unions have succeeded, some have failed, but none has lasted. Far from preventing wars, previous monetary unions have broken down because of wars, or sometimes less dramatic disagreements between members.

Three different kinds of monetary union, or common currency, are on in the transactions of the most show. In earlier times, there were common, rather than single currencies. Before the rise of the nation-state, many different currencies circulated and competed. The one-to-one link between currencies and states became universal only in the 19th century.

John Stuart Mill, the 19th century philosopher and social reformer, denounced the practice: "So much of barbarism, however, still remains



CHRISTOPHER **JOHNSON**

Today's Economic and Monetary Union won't be the first but it might prove the most durable

civilised nations, that almost all independent countries choose to assert their nationality by having, to their own inconvenience and that of their neighbours, a peculiar currency of their own."

Some of the earliest monetary unions took the form of empires imposing their own currency over their area both to symbolise domination and to facilitate trade. In the fifth century BC, Athens collected

not provide ships. It was housed in the treasury on the island of Delos, and later transferred to Athens. The treasury was in effect the central bank backing the silver drachma which Athens imposed on its

Opponents of monetary union, notably in Britain, cite various emperors as examples to be avoided - Charlemagne, Napoleon and Hitler, for example. Yet none of them found a common currency for purposes of domination. Napoleon imposed the French iranc only on Italy, the Netherlands, and Switzerland. Hitler imposed the Reichsmark (literally "imperial mark") only on Austria and Czechoslovakia. The Roman Empire did not impose its coinage on subject territories; they voluntarily adopted it because of its greater value and

The gut reaction of some British eurosceptics faced with the euro is: "Did we win the war for this?" The implication is that what Germany could not achieve by arms, she is now achieving by money. The europhile answer is that even a united Germany accounts for only just over a quarter of the European

money from her allies if they could power in the various European in- ver thaler, originally minted in the better chance of outcompeting ian lei. Serb dinars, Spanish peseshiptions is much less than that A Austrian Empire in 1744, which Germany integrated into a Euro- went on being used in the Arabian pean framework is less likely to Gulfuntil 1990. The British gold sovdominate than the independent pre-1945 Germany.

The idea that "Brussels" represents some kind of empire is belied by the fact that only the Council of Ministers of the 15 EU governments can take decisions on proposals by the Commission. In any case the European Central Bank, which has powers independent of governments, is located not in Brussels but in Frankfurt. It has two German directors out of 17.

The second kind of monetary union on show occurs where one nation's coinage becomes the common currency — but not the single currency — of a number of others. Such "trade coinages" are a tangible manifestation of a kind of economc union. They were common in the Middle Ages, and the stamp of a royal mint gave them a more stable value than the underlying value of the metals from which they were minted. English pennies, Florentine florins and Venetian ducats all circulated throughout Europe in this

The best example of a common Union economy, and its voting currency was the Maria Theresa sil-

ereign was another example. It even became legal tender in Portugal for a time. After 1945, the US dollar became the world's main common currency for trade and finance. It has partly replaced inflahon-prone domestic currencies for short periods in countries such as

Argentina and Russia, but political

as well as economic objections have

imposed limits on "dollarization". In the late 1980s the UK Treasury proposed that the ecu should be allowed to develop by becoming a common currency for trade and finance, competing alongside national currencies. As well as a free market approach to EMU, this was a way of getting Britain off the hook of having to decide whether to

join the European single currency. The competing ecu could never have worked as a basket currency made up of other currencies. It would have had no central bank, and no guarantee of stability against national currencies. David Folkerts-Landau of the IMF caricatured it as a currency that floats on jossamer wings

The D-mark would have had a

other European currencies, but that would have raised political

The euro, however, backed by the European Central Bank, looks as if it will quickly become a trade currency for non-members in Europe, such as the UK, and a world-wide currency for finance, eventually rivalling the US dollar.

The third kind of monetary union involves an agreement or a treaty between two or more states. As the British Museum puts it: "The degree of economic and political union that accompanies the monetary union depends on the wording of the agreement" — or, it might have added, subsequent agreements. This is clearly the model for EMU. whose history forms part of the exhibition.

The most obvious precedent is the Latin Monetary Union. It was set up in 1866, after Belgium, Switzerland and Italy had joined France in setting their own francs (the lira in the case of Italy) at par with each other. Ten countries joined the union formally or informally. The exhibition shows similar gold coins of 20 units of French, Swiss and Belgian francs, Italian lire, Greek drachmas, Bulgarian leva, Roman-

tas and Polish zloty. They all had the same value but each had its national symbol on one side. The euro coins, but not the notes, will follow this

The Latin Monetary Union. based on silver and gold, was absorbed into the gold standard in 1878. Britain and Germany, which were already on the gold standard. had refused to join, even though the British sovereign would have been almost exactly equal in value to the proposed new French 25-franc gold

The gold standard was not a monetary union. Countries were free to leave and enter, and to change the value of their currency against gold. By abolishing national currencies, EMU makes it difficult and expensive, though not impossible for a member to leave the union and recreate its own currency. Provided that members agree to spread the benefits of the euro among each other, EMU could thus prove more durable than other monetary unions - at least until world monetary union is on the agenda.

Christoph Johnson is UK Adviser to the Association for the Monetary

The year ahead: What 1999 is going to mean for six crucial stock market sectors

Merger mania won't go away

DEFENCE BY MICHAEL HARRISON

FOR BRITAIN'S defence and aerospace industries, D-Day approaches. This year they "consolidate or die", to use the with their ballooning research words of George Robertson, the Secretary of Defence.

100 to 100

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The big question remains with whom to consolidate. British Aerospace and Germany's Daimler Chrysler Aerospace look to be too far down he runway to pull out of their merger. The unknown quantity is GEC. Lord Simpson, its chief executive, has decided to hive off the Marconi defence electronics business from its industrial electronics and telecoms interests.

But who will Marconi team up with? It could yet become part of a trilateral arrangement with BAe and Dasa, but the more likely outcome remains some form of transatlantic tie-up with Lockheed Martin or Northrop Grumman.

There will also be consolidation in the armoured vehicles business. GKN and Alvis have already agreed to put their land vehicles businesses together, leaving Vickers' Challenger tanks division out in the cold.

Baron Buysse, the new chief executive at Vickers, will grasp the nettle early this year again the choice is between joining a UK alliance or pairing up with a US partner such as United Defense Industries.

On the civil aircraft front, Airbus Industrie will be tucky to achieve its transformation into a single corporate entity before 1999 is out. The deadline has already slipped by six months, As for the airline industry, watch out for further corporate action among the big flag carriers.

There has been persistent speculation about how much longer Bob Ayling will stay as chief executive of British Airways. A move into politics looked like a natural progression but now that his ally Peter Mandelson is gone and Geoffrey Robinson has given businessmen a bad name in Westminster, this looks a less obvious career change.

DRUGS BY FRANCESCO GUERRERA

IT WILL be difficult for pharmaceutical companies to recreate the hype in 1999 that surround-

ed the industry last year. After a year in which mergers, merger attempts and competition. On balance, this is

merger rumours threw a halo of glitz over a sector often seen as dull, the signs are that the next 12 months will be quieter.

Consolidation is still one of the industry's most pressing needs as compames struggle to cope and development budgets, but many analysts believe that the next merger wave will be delayed until the new millennium.

For a start, there are few deals that could realistically be done. The City's favourite blockbuster, the tie-up between the UK giants Glaxo Wellcome and SmithKline Beecham, for example, still makes commercial and clinical sense, given the superb fit of the two companies' drug portfolios.

But the clash of personalities between Glaxo's Sir Richard Sykes and the SmithKline Beecham boss Jan Leschly. which sank the deal the first time around, is likely to prove too big a stumbling block.

There could be more merger activity among the mediumsized players, which need to achieve critical mass to survive. Roche, the Swiss Group, and Schering of Germany are the prime candidates. Either of these could spoil the merger between the British drug company Zeneca and Astra of Sweden, launched at the end of 1998.

On the new drugs' front, 1999 should bring positive news for SmithKline Beecham, with the launch of its diabetes drug Avandia expected in the second half of the year. The drug has the potential to be a big-seller and could reach £4bn in sales over the next five years.

TELECOMS

By PETER THAL LARSEN

THREE themes will dominate the British telecom industry in 1999 - regulation, consolidation and new technology.

David Edmonds, the head of the industry watchdog Oftel, has already been hitting the headlines over the past month forcing cuts in the cost of calling mobile phones and raising the possibility of British Telecom being forced to fully open its local network to competitors. The coming year will see the conclusion of that consultation and a aimilar probe into the workings of the mobile phone

industry. With the European Commission watching closely over Oftel's shoulder, the trend is likely to be towards increased



'Consolidate or die' is the message for the European defence industry, already co-operating on projects like the Eurofighter. But who is going to merge with whom?

of IT company.

competitors again.

in the IT sector.

year when Sema, the Anglo-

French group, makes it long-

awaited move into the US.

BY NIGEL COPE

IF LAST YEAR was the annus

horribilis for the retail sector

then 1999 doesn't look much

better. The combination of the

stock market gyrations of last

summer and the threat of re-

cession has weakened con-

sumer confidence to such an

extent that even though per-

sonal wealth is much more

healthy that at the start of the

spending cautiously.

likely to be negative for estab-INFORMATION lished players such as BT. TECHNOLOGY which will also have to spend most of the year trying to get its joint venture with AT&T past BY PETER THAL LARSEN

Consolidation will focus on some of the newer operators, who are under mounting pressure to join forces as the newly liberalised European market Favourite takeover targets are Colt and Energis, but Cable & Wireless could also fall to a break-up hid as it hunts for a

the regulatory authorities.

new chief executive.

Meanwhile, further consol-

idation in the cable sector -

probably involving Telewest -

cannot be ruled out. BT and

C&W should also at some point

move to take full control of their

respective mobile operators.

All this will be played out

against a background of

advancing technology. Data traffic will continue to grow

rapidly, as will demand for net-

works using Internet standards.

Faster Internet access over a

normal telephone line and --

from the spring — from your

cable TV company will stimu-

late more people to go on-line.

phone operators and a host of

other bidders will line up for the

auction of third-generation mo-

bile phone licences in the sum-

mer. However, the winners are

unlikely to start offering ser-

share prices? A repeat of 1998,

when three telecoms atocks -

Colt, Telewest and Energis -

were propelled into the Footsie

and even sleepy old BT doubled

That said, huge growth po-

tential and continued takeover

in value, looks unlikely.

telecom share prices.

What will all this mean for

vices until 2002.

Meanwhile, the mobile

Ceilnet and One2One.

INVESTORS IN British information technology stocks should prepare to have their nerve tested again. After the seesaw ride of the past year, when London's newly formed IT index almost doubled in six months only to halve again, computer stocks have

there are more surprises in

firms' ability to manage their growth and - equally impor-



activity should underpin most More corporate activity is expected in the electricity sector following last year's transatlantic deals

However, the uncertainties tant — to massage investors' of the coming year suggest expectations.

Growth in the software and services market is expected to slow to about 15 per cent from 20 per cent in 1998. The spending will be heavily weighted towards the first balf, when firms will be putting the finishing touches to preparations for the millennium.

This pattern will test IT

The immediate outlook is therefore grim, particularly According to Ross Jobber, for retailers of more expensive, an analyst at Deutsche Morgan deferable purchases such as Grenfell, IT companies such as furniture and carpets. The Logica, FI Group and CMG, January sales are likely to be cannot afford the slightest slip. a bonanza for shoppers with an A hiccup at SAP, the German unprecedented amount of unsoftware group that is seen as sold stock that will need to be the bell weather of the indusdiscounted to make way for try, would also send tremors But with interest rates

through the stock market. The IT staffing companies, tipped to fall sharply, the cloud which have seen their share over the high street could prices clobbered in recent begin to lift as the year draws months, are unlikely to recovon, although consumers are er until the long-term demand expected to retain their valuefor contractors becomes conscious approach. Some sectors will continue

Meanwhile, the introduction to thrive such as mobile phones and PCs but others, of a separate sub-sector for such as kitchens, will continue hardware suppliers will encourage investors to distinto struggle. Any retailer which guish between different types begins to look like it is not offering the best value will he Corporate activity will conpenalised. tinue in 1999. This may be the

How Marks & Spencers responds to its problems will be crucial for the rest of the clothing sector. A new, aggressive approach could make life Alternatively, it may be US tough for rivals.

firms who start buying British All this will be exacerbated One thing, however, is cerby supply-side problems with tain: 1999 will not be a dull year more mega-malls due to open this year, The massive Bluewater Park in Kent leads the way with its March opening RETAIL adding more space to an already over-shopped market.

In supermarkets the going will continue to be tough with sales growth expected to be minimal. But expect a series of price promotions as supermarkets battle for shoppers and attempt to head off the profits.

On the plus side, if the economy does start to improve. the release of pent up conlast downturn, shoppers are sumer demand is likely to have a significant impact.

By MICHAEL HARRISON

AS BUSINESSES GO, the utilities may be as dull as ditchwater. But they have yet to lose their capacity to surprise and entertain the stock market and this year does not look like being any different.

Last year ended with a welter of transatlantic takeover deals in the electricity sector, with ScottishPower buying PacifiCorp and National Grid snapping up New England Electric System. More corporate activity is on the cards in the next 12 months. PowerGen has not merging with a US utility and the nuclear generator, British Energy, is on the prowl in the US.

Closer to home, expect to see a continuing exodus of American utilities from the UK electricity market. Two have already sold their regional electricity companies and others are like ly to follow suit, or at least split the businesses in two, as the US owners of Midlands Electricity have done.

Consolidation looks like being the name of the game in the energy market, with several regional electricity companies likely to merge their supply businesses. But the water industry may also be poised for consolidation, with Thames Water leading the way. It argues that if the industry is to live with the 15-20 per cent price cut proposed by the industry regulator Ofwat, and still afford to invest Office of Fair Trading an extra £8.5bn in environmeninvestigation into excessive tal programmes, then cost-saving mergers are essential.

Ian Byatt, the Ofwat director general, has blocked consolidating mergers once and he will take some persuading to change

Williams invest in Zanardi's new zest

After finding glory in America, a former Formula One reject is back to prove that he can beat the best. By Derick Allsop

remould. Tried and rejected by Formula One in the early 1990s, he returns this year with a reputation made in America and an ambition to prove he has what it takes to succeed in grand prix racing.

Alessandro - or Alex as the Americans inevitably re-christened him -Zanardi is a 32-year-old Italian entrusted with the task of directing the sport's most successful team out of a relative slump and into the more familiar confines of the winner's

Williams' trust is based on Zanardi's remarkable record over the past three seasons, and on the performances of the man he effec-The Canadian repaired the damage to the perception of the transatiantic raider created by Michael Andretti's ill-starred adventure, by winning the 1997 world championship.

Villeneuve's defection to the embryonic BAR camp was a severe blow to Williams. Already intent on unloading Heinz-Harald Frentzen and unable to compete for the services of Michael Schumacher or one of the other leading Formula One drivers, the team decided to follow up on a contact with Zanardi.

In his first two seasons in the Champ Car series, Zanardi had

'It was time to finish one I might regret it one day, but at the moment

everything is wonderful'

been rookie of the year, then champion. He leaves with a second title and an unparalleled record of 15 wins from 50 starts.

Williams are equally impressed with his style of driving. He is a renowned charger, a racer in the image and likeness of Villeneuve. Nigel Mansell and Keke Rosberg. men who embodied the spirit of Frank Williams and his long-time partner, Patrick Head.

Zanardi also brings experience, albeit experience garnered from another arena, driving heavier, less sophisticated cars. He knows his way in racing, and that is considered a crucial attribute since the team's other recruit, Ralph Schumacher, is 23 and still learning the ropes.

Zanardi was given his first in 1991 by Jordan, who had unearthed the gem called Michael Schumacher only to have him whisked away by Benetton.

Zanardi made nothing like the same impact as the original Schumacher hut after three races with 1992, he won a full-time drive and

HE IS not so much a new face as a season was cut short by a spectacular accident at Spa. Still more damaging was the demise of Lotus and their withdrawal at the end of 1994 left Zanardi in the pits without a car after 25 grands prix.

ing in 1995 before trying his luck on the American tour with Chip Ganassi's team, a move which changed his fortune and his life. He could have stayed to attempt a hattrick of series victories, but the professinnal and personal lure of Formula One was too much to resist.

year deal worth more than £10 million, time and compensation enough to carry him through what may be tively replaces, Jacques Villeneuve. a difficult transitional period for the team before they launch their alliance with BMW in 2000.

> myself in a discipline which did not really provide the opportunity the first time. It was time to finish one chapter and start another. I might regret it one day, but at the moment everything is wonderful."

His perspective of wonderland has been challenged already by test sessions in the Williams, something of a culture sbock for an American chapter and start another, racing bero. "I did not expect it to feel so strange," he said. "It has changed completely and in every driving position. Never before have I sat in a racing car with my feet higher than my backside. I am also used to driving much heavier cars. When I was at Lotus it was a prehistoric era, now it's space-age.

is exactly what we are here to do. The more I drive the more the fog clears from my mind. I'm here to learn and to communicate my experiences and opinions with the team. I will be eager to get back in

still to put their new car through its paces. "The team are currently third in the constructors' championship and a slight improvement will be a good enough start," Zanardi said. "Having seen the factory and the programmes that are under way, it is clear Williams are not to raid the world rankings. expecting to go without success for opportunity on the grand prix circuit the next couple of years. But I have no target for 1999, apart from doing my best. Everything will depend on

the Williams, Formula One is ready to embrace Zanardi again. Cheerful and popular in his original guise, the Jordan and one with Minardi in mature version also offers candid expression born of achievement admirers at Lotus the following year, and self-assurance. The coming He earned his one, and so far only, months will determine whether he Formula One point in Brazil and his regrets his return.

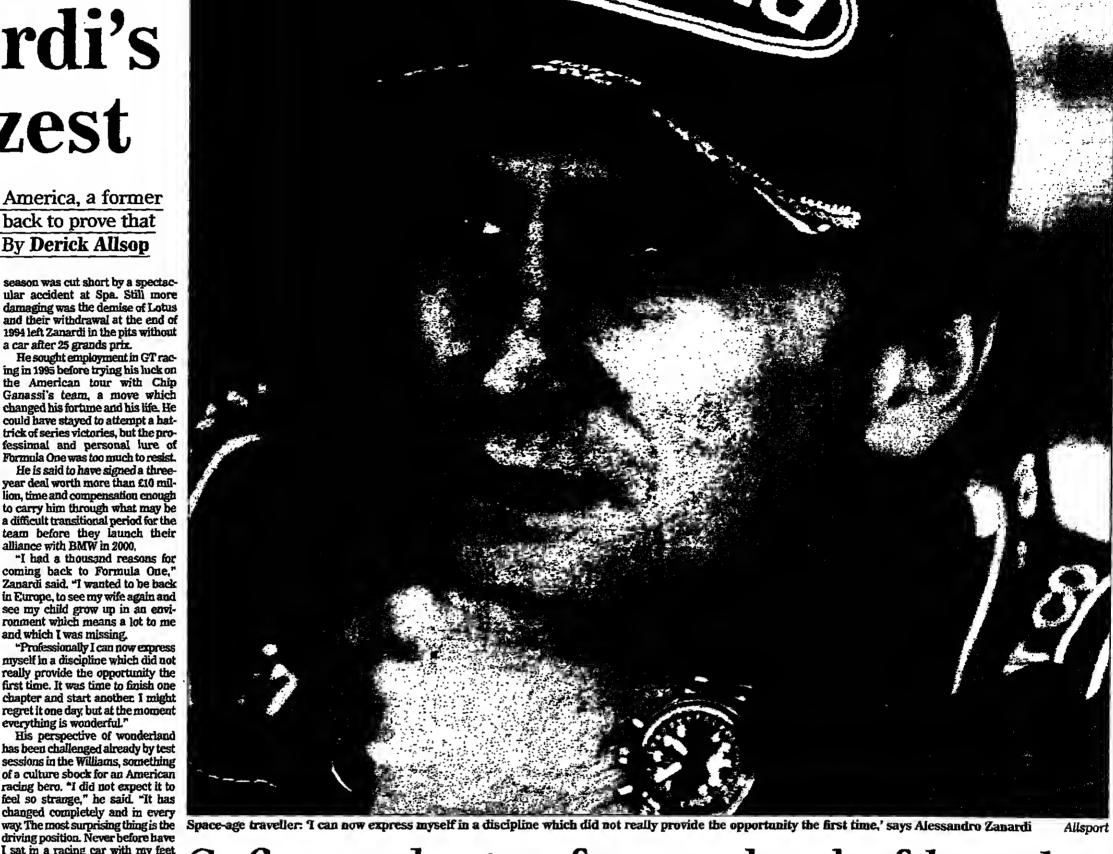
He sought employment in GT rac-

He is said to have signed a three-

"I had a thousand reasons for coming back to Formula One," Zanardi said. "I wanted to be back in Europe, to see my wife again and see my child grow up in an environment which means a lot to me and which I was missing.

"Professionally I can now express

"Every lap I take in the Williams the car after the New Year."



Safin graduates from school of knocks

teaches me something new, which GIVEN RUSSIA'S passion for sport, particularly disciplines demanding mental strength as well as physical fitness, the evolution of their tennis players has made Britain seem prolifie by comparison.

Marat Safin, for example, an 18-year-old Muscovite who made He and the team will be keener an impact at the French Open last June, was moulded on Spanish clay with the assistance of sponsorship from a Swiss bank. The bank funded the first three years of the four years Safin has spent training in Valencia being schooled in the groundstroke skills that have enabled Spain

Spain already had 19 representatives in the French Open men's singles (and nine in the women's event), before Safin, ranked No 116, underlined the quality of their meth-Whatever the competitiveness of ods by qualifying for his first grand slam tournament and defeating Andre Agassi in the opening round,

5-7, 7-5, 6-2, 3-6, 6-2. Agassi, who had accounted for the 6ft 4in Safin in straight sets when the United States played Russia in the Davis Cup in Atlanta a month earlier, said he "felt something happen"

Russia's loss is Spain's gain as a teenager makes a name for himself. By John Roberts

in his right shoulder during the game to play in Russia in the early first set of their match in Paris.

There was nothing physically wrong with Safin's second-round opponent, Gustavo Kuerten. Safin outlasted the Brazilian, 3-6, 7-6, 3-6, 6-1, 6-4, becoming the first qualifier to defeat a men 's grand slam singles champion in the open era.

Safin lost in five sets to the Frenchman Cedric Pioline in the fourth round. Safin then received a wild card for Wimbledon where, playing on grass for the first time, he lost in four sets to Ukrainian Andrei Medvedev in the opening round. The Russian finished his first year at the majors by advancing to the last 16 of the United States Open.

Due to mark his 19th birthday on 27 January, during the second week of the Australian Open in Melbourne, Safin, ranked No 48, seems to have what it takes to add to Russia's periodic influence on the sport. Tennis, tailored for the lawns of

capitalists, was hardly likely to be the

part of the century, and the advent of open tennis 30 years ago did little to encourage the Soviet Union to promote its players. Alex Metreveli, a Georgian.

reached the Wimbledon men's singles final in 1973 and Olga Morozova was a finalist at both Wimbledon and the French Open in 1974. Shortly afterwards, the Soviet authorities decided not to risk allowing athletes out of the country unless they were participating in Olympic sports.

The Soviet attitude changed when tennis was reinstated as a medal sport for the 1988 Olympic Games. The snag, as far as the players were concerned, was that the greater part of their prize-money was paid directly to the Soviet Tennis Federation.

In 1989, the Muscovite Andrei Chesnokov hired an agent. His example was followed by Natasha Zvereva, from the Belarus city of nounced that they did not agree with handing their prize-money to the national federation.

The situation was resolved in 1990. Chesnokov and Zvereva were allowed to keep their prize-money and arrange their own schedules, provided they paid their own exenses and made themselves available for events like the Olympics. In April 1990, Chesnokov became

the first Soviet to win a major tour event, the Monte Carlo Open. Six years later, Yevgeny Kafelnikov, from the Black Sea resort of Sochi made the crucial breakthrough at a grand slam, winning the 1996 French Open men's singles championship, and also the doubles title.

Although there is a men's and a women's professional tour event in Moscow to help sustain interest, Safin's decision to train in Spain may be part of a trend among young Russians to work in other countries. The 17-year-old Anna Kourniko-

va has practically grown up in Florida. "I have known Marat since I was five," Kournikova says. "When we went to America the first time with Minsk. Chesnokov and Zvereva an- a group, it was with 15 kids. I prac- hearing more of El Ruso.



Safin: Bright future predicted

tised with him in Russia many times. I think he's got a great game. It probably belped him a lot that be's practised in Spain, not in Russia.

Safin was initially coached by his mother, Louisa Islanova, who was ranked in the top 10 in Russia. He has had a Spanish mentor, Rafael Mensua, since the age of 14, and names Jose-Francisco Altur a lefthander from Valencia, as the player he most admired. We shall be

Blowing the whistle on the middle men

The Man in Black: A History of the Football Referee By Gordon Thomson

Prion, £9.99

IF THEY mark the millennium by striking medals in honour of genuine courage in football, any survivors from a recurring experiment in the 1930s, '40s, and '50s should be at the front of the queue. Argentina, experiencing a few local difficulties, sent for a dozen of Britain's finest

referees on long-term loan. Since those difficulties involved hribery, intimidation, and the occasional murder, that puts the odd shove at Sheffield Wednesday into its historical context.

BOOK OF THE WEEK

The trailblazer was Ike Caswell from Blackburn, who came out of retirement to tackle this tricky mission. Refereeing Boca and Racing in 1938, Caswell sent off one of the country's most popular players for repeatedly arguing with him. He was stoned at the end of the game for his trouble, but was unrepentant.

"My firmness in this match, and the fact that I was out for discipline and was not to be deterred by the fame of the players or the clubs, made an impression and changed the situation," said Caswell after he made his escape.

Indeed, it is Gordon Thomson's thesis that football in South America would never have overcome its inherent chaos if not for the firm smack of imported discipline. If that sounds an unreconstructed, colonialist viewpoint, then that is the tone of much of this book.

British referees might have their quirks and eccentricities - he devotes a full chapter to the most extreme, Clive Thomas - but they are invariably more to be trusted with a whistle than Johnny Foreigner.

As a history, this is something of a hotch-potch, but it has some fas-

why they are called referees? The lunges that would attract a yellow answer - obvious when you think about it - is that they were originally adjudicators when the two umpires provided by the clubs could

not reach a decision. Those unnpires stood behind the goal lines, as officials still do in Australian Rules and have started to do in rugby league, and saw very little. As more and more was referred (aha!) to the referee, his role expanded and the umpires were reduced to the duties of linesmen and given flags as compensation.

This revelation comes early in the book. Not all of it lives up to the same, illuminating standard, and cinating moments. How many know there are some annoying stylistic

card from some arbiters.

There is a hrave attempt, how ever, to assess the future of the referee in an era of rapidly expanding technological possibilities. The one measure that could help the poor old ref more than any though, is being tried out hy unassisted

mortals in, of all places, Jersey. It is a 10-yard rule, like the one that operates in both codes of rugby, where failure to retreat at a free-kick is punished by marching you back towards your own goal.

the game". It has only taken 135 years to work that one out

That would "wipe out dissent in

THIS WEEK'S TOP TEN SPORTS BOOKS

1 Angry White Pyjamas, Robert Twigger (Indigo, paperback, £6.99). 2 Addicted, Tony Adams with Ian Ridley (Collins Willow, hardback,

3 Bleak and Blue - 22 Years at the Manchester Academy of Football Farce, Craig Winstanley (Sigma, paperback, £8.95).

4 European Football Yearbook 1998-99, edited by Mike Hammond (Sports Projects, paperback, £23.95). 5 Winter Colours - Changing Seasons in World Rugby, Donald McRae

(Mainstream, hardback, £16.99) 6 Elliott's Golf Form 1999, Keith Elliott (Portway Press, paperback,

7 Turning Point. Sean Fitzpatrick and Duncan Johnstone (Penguin, hardback, £16.99).

8 Jenny Pitman - The Autobiography (Partridge, hardback, £16.99). 9 Playing at Home, John Aizlewood (Hallamshire Press, hardback, 10 Annuario del Calcio Mondiale 98-99, edited by Salvatore Lo Presti

(SET, hardback, £19.95). Chart compiled by Sportspages, 94-96 Charing Cross Road, London (0171 240 9604); St Ann's Square, Manchester (0161 832 8530); www.sportspages.co.uk

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Robinson let down by bereft Bath

ionality

figure as he fielded the unanswerable questions for the umpteenth successive weekend and, when you remember that the Bath of old considered dignity in defeat to be about as politically correct as a whalemeat sandwich, it was really rather worrying. On the other hand Robbo's performance in the after-match formalities was immeasurably more honest than the one he had just witnessed from his players. They are leaving a good man swinging in the Gloucester a wind and do not even look as though they care.

Embarrassingly enough, the only person visibly upset by Robinson's predicament was his rival coach. "Of course I feel for him," said Richard Hill, and wondering how the hell to whose relief at seeing his own break the sequence. The dif-side emerge from the dark pit ference for him is that he is



CHRIS

friend and former clubmate. "Tve been where Robbo is now, suffering defeat after defeat of despair was tempered by a coaching Bath, where the hooest with you, he's on a hid-

In my opinion, he was brave to take on the Bath job because it was a poisoned chalice; there maximise the catering revenue was only one way they could go in the professional era and that was down. They remain a hugely talented side - you'd give your right arm for the chance of coaching a squad like theirs but psychologically, everything is working against them. Robbo will be stronger for this experience, though. Bath would be foolish to move him out now, be-

club to benefit from the priceess knowledge he is gaining." What Hill might also have said is that Robinson is the victim of the piece, not the culprit. He is effectively doing the jobs of three men - chief coach, team manager and director of

cause it would allow another

- and is also planning another to for help. Tony Swift's deparsignificant injection of capital. ture from the board leaves Bath with a managerial hier-Bath badly need an open-side archy that understands how to flanker and an early approach Pontypridd's Martyn Williams, the best No 7 in at the Recreation Ground but would barely know an inside Wales, is on the cards.

night: "Just at the moment, the club doesn't deserve Andy." Happily, there are firm indications that Andrew Brownsword, Bath's multi-millionaire owner, will shun the easy option and continue to give Robinson his unequivocal back-

centre from a cheeseburger As

one veteran of the old amateur

committee put it on Sahirday

ing. Brownsword fully intends to appoint a chief executive to work alongside the coach - the trustees of the club are urging hioody hell, I doo't feel good." him to open negotiations with Geoff Cooke, the former Eng-

There is no earthly point in attempting life-saving surgery on a corpse, however, and Bath certainly looked dead from the neck up at Kingsholm.

Shambolic at half-back. chaotic out wide and as soft as putty up front, they barely tested a workaday Gloucester side whose recent form had been very nearly as barren. "The lowest point in all my time at Bath? Without a doubt," said Robinson afterwards. "How do I feel? Well, I'm not a quitter but,

The story of this sixth sucland manager who first capped cessive Premiership defeat is

the game in the space of 11 minutes either side of the interval. Playing with the wind and rain at their backs, they had reached the half-hour with only a Mark Mapletoft penalty to

show for their supremacy when Iain Balshaw, Bath's physically challenged right wing, failed to minor a speculative Mapletoft chip and gifted Chris Catling a soft touchdown in the corner. "That sort of thing is a cock-up, not a coaching issue," muttered Robinson in a rare con-

Mapletoft added a penalty before launching a stilettosharp midfield move involving Richie Tombs and Terry Fanolua. Catling was again the beneficiary, and when the huccaneering young full-back then bisected Balshaw and Richard Webster following a miscued

cession to self-defence.

touchfinder from Jeremy Guscott, Bath allowed Fanolua such a ridiculous amount of time to complete the journey to the line that he might have fitted in a visit to his family en route. They live in Samoa.

Twenty-three points adrift,

Bath had nowhere to go. They

could not drive the scrums because their scrummaging lock, Nigel Redman, concussed himself so badly at a 20th minute ruck that he was incapable of distinguishing between Kingsholm and King's Lynn; they could not work moves off the line-out because Mark Cornwell was playing the game of his life in the Gloucester engine room; and they could not make progress in broken play because Ed Pearce and Steve Ojomoh murdered

them in the tackle. What was more, they knew they were beateo long before

the game won. "They're very quiet these days, those Bath boys," said Brian Campsall, whose sympathetic refereeing beloed manufacture a fascinating derby in desperate conditions. "Back in the old days, I'd have had John Hall barking in one ear and Robbo snarling in the other." It was the most telling comment of all. Bath have even forgotten how to referee their own matches.

Gloucester: Tries: Catling 2, Fanolua: Conversion: Mapletoft; Penalties: Mapletoft 2, Bath: Try Adebayo; Con-version: Callard.

Mapleton J. Salada W. Holsoyo, C. Salada Warsion: Caltard.
Gloncester: C. Catting: B. Johnson, T. Fanohua. R. Tombs, R. Greenslade-Jones: M. Mapleton; S. Benton; T. Woodman, N. McCarthy. A. Deacon (A. Powles, 75), R. Fidder (capt., R. Ward, 71). M. Cornwell, E. Pearce. S. Ojoneh, N. Carter.
Baeth: J. Callard (M. Perry, 73); 1. Balshaw. J. Gascott, K. Maggs., A. Adebayo; M. Catt., S. Hatley (G. Cooper, 64); O. Hilton (K. Yares, 64). M. Regan (A. Long 73), V. Ubogu. S. Borthwick, N. Redman (B. Sturnham 20), E. Peters, D. Lyle, R. Webster (capt., R. Earnshaw, 73).

Saints in

no mood

for falling

shy of title

IAN McGEECHAN displays

none of the restlessness associated with some people in

sport to whom ambition is all.

Not because the Northampton

director of rugby has done it all.

There is much more he

wishes to achieve, despite being a playing member of the

unbeaten British Lions team to

South Africa in 1974, the suc-

cessful coach of two winning

Lions Test teams, and you can

add that Scotland Grand Slam

in 1990, So. McGeechan could

also be forgiven for feeling he

The more likely explanation is of an understandable need to

protect a career which has so

far not been undermined by fail-

ure. McGeechan has never said as much, but all the talk about

Northampton being a side of perennial under-achievers has

McGeechan must have dwelt

on the inescapable fact that the

dividing line between deep-

seated pride and self-delusion

is perilously thin in profes-

McGeechan has managed a

Saints side for whom winning

one of the major prizes was not

impossible, but on the improb-

but McGeechan may soon be

able to put the spectre of con-

tinuous under-achievement be-

hind him, and be within reach

of adding a major club compe-

tition to his curriculum vitae.

now has a pack of forwards

At his disposal McGeechan

There is still some way to go,

able side of daunting.

sional sport. Until this

quieter moments.

has little to prove.

BY PAUL STEPHENS

Northampton

Far from it.

Cameo by Turner a

real gem

MAYBE IT was the alarm call given to them by London Scottish in the previous match seven days go. Perhaps it was Saracens owner Nigel Wray's pep talk during training last Thursday, a clarion call to arms, one of those "We are all in this together chaps" type of thing.

It might even have been the sight of their ageing assistant. coach Paul Turner, sitting on the bench, as the north London club make do and mend their way through an injury crisis. Whatever it was, it worked. Saracens returned to winning ways at the expense of a gutsy Bedford and slipped back into third place in the Allied Dunhar

Turner, who left Bedford earlier this season and had not played at this level since last season, actually joined the fray with some 17 minutes left, taking over at stand-off from Gavin Johnson, who still lacks the vision and decision making required at No 10.

The 39-year-old Turner's impact was immediate, his deft touches transformed Saracens' midfield approach, and they added 17 points in that period. But, by then, Bedford had pretwell played themseives out.

and that was sad. It could all have been so different had it not been for Bedford's propensity to throw away the ball, and the consequent scoring opportunities, so frequently Especially throughout the first half, Saracens looked to be off the boil and would have had their work cut out to recover even given their marked second-half improvement.

Beford's inventive threequarters frequently pioneered athways through seemingly impenetrable Saracens defences. But, at the last, if Bedford did not fluff it then Saracens would snuff it.

In truth neither side really shone, and it was probably just as well that yesterday's crowd of 6,593 was the smallest at Vic-

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BY DAVID LLEWELLYN

arage Road for a rugby match. Saracens' solitary try in the first half was a hright moment, a glittering break by Ryan Constable finished off by Richard Wallace down the left. But most of the entertainment had been provided by lowly Bedford, with burly centres Alistair Murdoch and Dan Harris ripping into the opposition and trying to send someone, anyone who could hang on to the ball, in for the kill.

After the interval things changed, albeit slowly. It needed a concerted forward effort at a line-out to manufacture Saracens' second try, which saw the Ireland lock Paddy Johns touching down.

When Brendon Daniel slipped and slithered his way through flailing hands and failing tackles before gathering himself for a 35-yard run to the line it looked as if it was all over. But Saracens let in Junior Paramore, who charged down Matt Singer's casual chip.

The first of Danny Grewcock's two tries was a beiter, set in motion by England flanker Richard Hill, who looked to be in fine touch. Turner sparked Grewcock's next eight minutes later in the 70th minute, and was also a key player in scrumhalf Marcus Olsen's sharply taken chance three minutes from the end. It left Bedford languishing a place off the bottom and coping with the knowledge that only Bath have put more points on them this season.

acens: Tries R Wallace, Johns, Daniel, wcock 2, Olsen; Conversions Johnson 4; addes Johnson 2, Bedford; Try Paramore; warsion Yapp; Penalties Yapp 2. Saraceas: M Singer (P Turner, 63): B Daniel (B Free, 80), R Constable, S Ravenscrott, R Walface; G Johnson (J Thomson, 72), M Obert: O Flammar (A Oliver, 72), G Chuter (G Botterman, 71), P Walface, C Vandell (P Johns, 41), D Grewcock, T Coher (P Ogiwie, 63), A Diprose (capt), R Hill.

Diprose (capt), R Hill.

Besifierd: B Wheestone: R Underwood, A Murdoch (capt), D Harris, D O'Mahony, A Yapp, R Efflott: A Ozdenit, J Richards. C Boyd, D Zatzman (J Beardshaw, 64; V Hartland, 75), S Murray, J Cockle (R Winters, 53), J Paramore, J Forster.



Wasps' Rob Henderson runs into the hard-tackling Peter Tanginoa as West Hartlepool bring the Londoners to earth yesterday Ben Duffy

West passion squashes Wasps

WHEN A SENIOR West Hartle- BY PAUL STEPHENS nool official announced recently that the club had turned the corner it could be taken, as before when we have beard this sort of thing, that they were preparing to head down yet

another cul-de-sac. But now we must to believe them. For this tumultuous first victory at Victoria Park, which ended Wasps' tenuous hold on third place in the Premiership. was founded on the impressive self-belief which surfaced last week in defeat at Newcastle.

West never let Wasps settle on the ball, disrupted their continuity, and defended with rare passion. West counter attacked

West Hartlepool

whenever the opportunity arose and made a thunderous start, which would have been more impressive had Steven Vile kicked a 40-metre straight penalty.

However, West maintained their footbold in Wasps' territory and, eschewing a shot at goal from the next penalty. Vile kicked for the corner. Philippe Farner took a clean catch and James Ponton was driven over for the try. Vile converted.

Even at this early stage

there was an urgency about ner. Five scrums later and the West's approach work, and immensely fortunate Scrivener their tackling lacked nothing in its accuracy or determination. In this respect, where Duane Monkley led by example, Peter Tanginoa's dumping of

down the coast in Middles-Until now Wasps had not pieced together an attack worthy of the name. When they did, Peter Scrivener's pass to Kenny Logan was so palpably forward that the Wasps forwards could barely believe their

Lawrence Dallaglio raised a

cheer which could be heard

luck when the movement was

allowed to continue into the cor-

crossed for a pushover try. It would be another 48 minutes before Wasps were

allowed a second slice of good fortune, when Logan's conversioo of Dinos Alexopoulos's try went in off the left upright. And, although Nick Greenstock got a third try for Wasps, it was in the fifth minute of injury time, and the game had gone beyond

When Toby Handley raced into the left corner for a try just before the break. Wasps were looking thoroughly rattled, none more so than Logan, who missed with two straightfor-

slotted two penalties, and Emmet Farrell drilled over a dropped goal to take West up to 21-5, Wasps were searching for answers. They never looked as if they would find any; West knew them all.

Whappe J Lewsey: P Sampson, L Scrase, R Henderson (N Greenstock, 56), K Lo-gan, A King, M Wood (A Gomarsall S6): A le Chevaller, D Macer (A Aleopoulos 65), W Green, M Weedon (capt), S Shaw (A Reed, 65), Dallagllo, P Volley, P Scriven-er (E Rollitt, 61).

capable of competing with the best; and that includes Leices-Soon he will able to call on the 6ft 3in, 20 stone, Argentinian tight-head Martin Scelzo, to join his compatriot Federico

Mendez in the front row. By then, Northampton will surely be prepared for the visit on 13 March of Leicester to Franklin's Gardens for a confrontation which will probably settle the destination of the Allied Dunhar silverware.

They are almost ready now. With 10 victories from their last 11 Premiership matches, this latest, at Heywood Road. where Sale lost only to Richmond in the league in 1998, was on a ground where Saints have won only once before in a decade.

For a while it seemed as if Northampton's obsession with the primacy of forward power, to the exclusion of all other forms of attacking expression, might cost them dear, as Sale scored four spanking tries; all

from long range. But with Dion O'Cuinneagain white-carded for not retiring at a penalty, the Saints' pack was in full cry. Pat Lam grabbed a hat-trick of tries and Saints went marching to the top of the table, separated from

Leicester only by points difference.

Sale: Tries Hanley 2. Machacek, Moore; Commersions Howarch 2. Northampton: Tries Lam 3, Allen, Malone; Commersions Grayson 4: Penalkies Grayson 2. Sale: J Mallinder (capt); M Moore, 8-J Mather, C Yotes, 5 Hanley, 5 Howarth, R Smith; P Winstanley (O Williamson, 74). P Greening (5 Diamond, 68), O Beli, O Baldwin (A Sanderson, h-t), C Murphy, 5 Ralwalui, P Sanderson, 0 O'Cuinnineagain J Machacek, 67).

() Mochacek, 67).

Morthampton: N Beal; C Moir, A Blyth,
MAlen, J Sleightholme; P Grayson, M Dawson (O Malone, 75); G Pagel, F Mendez,
M Stewart (M Hyres, 73), R Metcalfe, T
Rodber (capt. J Philips, 67), G Seely, B
Pountney, P Lam
Referee: A Rowden (Thatcham, Berkshire).

Newcastle forget their lines Quinnell the catalyst

THEY MAY be as fit as paratroopers or marines, but professional rugby players miss out when it comes to selfdiscipline. Newcastle, the defending Allied Dunbar Premiership champions, failed to toe the line (offside and other) and allowed an invigorated Lon-

don Irish to spirit away victory. The chill wind that hlew across Sunbury was as much down to the foriorn bope the self-styled Falcons harbour for retention of their title as it was a herald for a belated winter.

They seemed as resigned to their fate as they are to losing their captain and player-coach Dean Ryan to Bristol. An announcement is expected today, which will see Ryan heading West to join the Second Division club as player-coach.

The Falcons did not so much stoop, as bow before the inevitable. Even when they went ahead, albeit by a point, there was a lack of conviction. The Newcastle supporters must have realised as long as their men were prepared to risk killing the ball, hanging around Offside or, worse, to mix it and generally to try the referee's paBY DAVID LLEWELLYN

Newcastle

tience, then they were always on a loser.

Steve Bates, the Newcastle coach, admitted his side could have won "Our indiscipline is beginning to cost us significantly," he said. He had just seen his side throw away numerous opportunities when just a shove away from the Exiles' line, a careless straying over the offside line or a sudden eruption of temper, Irish were awarded a penalty which got

them out of jail every time. Doddie Weir, the Scotland international lock, at least had the decency to agree with his coach and was hig enough to confess: "I have to lay a personal claim to matters and say I had a problem with that as well, because I gave penalties away at silly

But while he was not prepared to condone what had taken place, he added: "I think it is down to over-enthusiasm.

one but ourselves, we have to take it on the chin. We will have a long look at the video, Monday I would think."

Weir's international colleague scrum-half, Gary Armstrong, playing with a cracked thumb but looking as sharp as ever was more apprehensive about today's viewing. "We'll study the video and no doubt get a bollocking." They will deserve it because there were moments in the match when the outcome could have been different.

Irish blew hot. Very hot at times. And cold at others. They have a few firebrands now and five wins in their last seven matches since the likes of Steve Bachop and Kevin Putt joined them. Dick Best, their director of rugby, said: "I was pleased we created opportunities to score. We should have put the game to bed in the first half. That was disappointing."

He patted the forwards on the back for their outstanding performance. The backs were a different kettle of fish. True they posed problems for the de-And perhaps frustration when fence – it was just a matter of we dive in and give away a which defence. There were

times when the bome side SCOTT QUINNELL is back in BY ROBERT COLE found themselves stretched. But when they were good the Irish midfield were very, very good. Good enough to run with the best of the first division.

Which is what Best wants Irish to do. He knows that they have to finish in the top six or eight to stand a chance of being part of a significant competition next season, be it Europe, a British League or whatever

And he was moved enough to say: "If we win at Northampton on Tuesday, then I will say that we have arrived. If we can go to Franklin's Gardens and sneak a result, then I think we will be in a fair position to say that we might fancy ourselves making an assault on this championship." There is nothing to stop them, except themselves. And

thern, except inemserves. And the same goes for Newcastle. Leaden hist: Try Eshop; Conversion Cunningham; Penaltice Curvingham 3. Newcastle: Tries Tulgamaia. Armstrong: Conversions Wilkinson 2. Leaden Irisk: C O'Shea (capt); J Bishop. R Todd. B Venter, J Curningham (N Woods, 76); S Bachop, K Putr, N Hattey, M Howe (R Kirke, 48), K Fullman, K Spicer, M O'Kelly, J Boer, R Gallacher (t Feaunati, 58), K Dawson. pawson.

Nemocastla: 5 Legg: J Naylor, M Shaw, R
Andrew (capt), V fulgarnals; J Wikinson, G
Armstrong: G Graham, R Nesdale, M
Hurter, O Weir, G Archer, P Walton, R Beat-

the old routine and everyone at Stradey Park is looking forward to a new golden era following the return of their prodigal son.

The mighty Quin scored his first try in four years at his old stamping ground in what was his third game for the Scarlets since returning from his sojourn in England at rugby league giants Wigan and Allied Dunbar Premiership One club Richmond

But even if adding another try to the many he scored before his departure was welcome, the real difference is that there is now a greater degree of maturity and accountability in the Welsh No 8's game.

"Scott makes good yardage, as he always did, and always ensures the ball is recycled. He has returned a much more mature player," Gareth Jenkins, the Llanelli coach, said. "His attitude has been fash-

ioned by one of the best professional rugby teams around in Wigan and he is a great professional. He had a very impressive game for us."

Caerphilly

Top of Jenkins' silverware shopping list is the Premier Division title which, thanks to maximum bonus points in this game, they look well set to win given their two-point lead at the top over major rivals Pontypridd. This month the Scarlets also have the WRU Challenge Trophy to concentrate on and Jenkins is keen to keep the profile of his side as high as possible this season.

With a British league looking likely next winter Jenkins is hell-bent on ensuring that Llanelli are part of the new Things are changing so

the end of this month it looks as though the future of Welsh rugby will have heen determined," Jenkins said. "It is vital that we keep our momentum going, because reputations are so important at this time. We feel we deserve to be

guarantee that is by winning and winning well." They certainly did both those things against a stubborn Caer-

philly side, running in 10 tries in all. The only hlemish on a near-perfect afternoon was the 15th-minute injury to Byron Hayward, who looks likely to be sidelined for up to six weeks with knee ligament damage. That apart, Jenkins had every reason to be pleased.

Usuali Tries: Wyat: 3, Williams 2, Finau, Voyle, Rogers, Outhinell, Moon; Connan-sions: Jones 6, Campbilly Try: Bray: Convariation: Davey, unrd (D Rogers, 15): W Proc-tor, 5 Finau. N Davies, 0 Williams; 5 Jones, R Moon; P Booth, R McBride (capit), M Mad-den (S Gale, 73). C Wyst., M Voyle, H Jenk-ins (D Hodges, 61), 5 Quinnell (V Cooper, 61).

I Jones.
Caerphility: S Davey: O Starr (N Berbillion, 70), R Bidgood, A Paifrey, R Winder C John, J Hopper (W Bray, 70); R Bidgoo, C Ferris, M Wilson (S Price, 66), D Neblo (A Evans, 54), N Jones (capt), B Watkins (G Jones, 45), P Agar, C Brown. e: G Simmonds (Cardiff).

■ The record Scotland cap rapidly in rugby union and at holder, Scott Hastings, has announced his retirement from representative rugby. The 34year-old Lions centre, who played 65 times for his country, announced his decision after playing for Edinburgh Reivers in the final of the Tennent's Velvet Tri-Series against Glasgow up there with the top clubs in Caledonians at Netherdale yes-

Britain, but... the only way to terday.

Murphy stout Maguire man

IT IS at times like this that Adrian Maguire will discover who his real friends are. If he needs someone to slice their respective palms with cold steel and swap blood Maguire need look no further than his countryman looking to use him as much as and Leyburn trainer. Ferdy I can. He will be full up on ours

ever since the young man arrived in this country with a Richard Johnson has a [whip] stuffed handkerchief on the ban coming up. end of a pole as his only baggage. They have enjoyed great Towcester on Thursday in the combined success, especially in the green and white colours of the owner Geoff Hubbard, and Murphy is not about to desert his old confederate.

The trainer does not believe that Maguire has fallen from his regal standards of old. If anything, he thinks the little man's talent has flourished. He can sum up the matter quite succinctly. "This whole thing about Adrian is a load of old bollocks," he said yesterday. "I has done in recent years because now he's got the experience. He'a hetter than ever.

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"He was stable jockey to a the rub of the green and as soon as that happens the man in the spotlight is the one riding all the horses. Somebody has got to get the blame."

Ferdy prohably knows what a good jockey looks like. He was a professional rider himself for 16 years, once the first jockey to Paddy Mullins, He likes the cut of Maguire's jib and he does not believe "the golden

child" has lost any of his lustre. "I used him early oo this year on a horse called Flight For he was looking for a stride 10 may be that the home challenge

12,30 Faym

strides out from a hurdle on hard ground told me that this was not a man who had lost his bottle," the trainer said. "I'll be if he wants to he and I'm sure Murphy has used Maguire he'll be riding a lot more for Jackdaws Castle now as well as

"He'll ride Ardrina for me at mares' race. She should win, On Saturday at Haydock I'm hoping he'll ride Ackzo for me. The horse ahould be good

RICHARD EDMONDSON Nap: Western Chief (Folkestone 12.40) **NB: Emerald Statement** (Folkestone 1.10)

enough for the Sun Alliance [Novices' Hurdle] and I think think he's riding as well as he he's really decent. Andrew Thornton told me that if he'd settled last time [when a neck second at Newcastle] he would have won 20 lengths. Now it's yard which just wasn't getting time to get the spondulicks

> As well as knowing his pilots, you have to assume that Ferdy knows his vessels. He has trained the likes of Anaglog's Daughter, Sibton Abbey and Paddy's Return, but the best of them all may be the gargantuan French Holly, who destroyed Master Beveled, Dato Star and the rest in the Christmas Hurdie at Kermton last week.

As we look around for great hrown hopes to dethrone the mighty Istabraq in the Cham-Freedom at Perth and the way pion Hurdle at Cheltenham, it

By RICHARD EDMONDSON will be best led by an Irish trainer and an Irish owner, Murphy and Kieran Flood. As he overlooked the white hills around Naas yesterday Murphy contemplated a scrap in the wings hefore the protagonists get on centre stage. French Holly and Istabraq are due to collide later this month in the rather grandly named AIG Europe Champion Hurdle at Leopardstown.

Even French Holly's appearance in the race would be a fillip for his trainer. The experts have been telling him that the hig lad needs a test of stamina. "If you look at the way he took the Tolworth Hurdle last season he beat all the best novices to run before Cheltenham," Murphy said. "How can they say he is a stayer when he had them all beaten down the back? He won 14 lengths.

"He will be entered in the Champion Hurdle Trial at Haydock - the race Dato Star won last year - but he runs in Ireland unless there is a foot of snow. They [team Istabraq] went to the AIG without much opposition last year but we should give them something to think about this time.

"I think mine is a very good horse. Istabrag is a champion and we are a challenger, and if you haven't got a serious challenger in a race you've got nothing. We're not saying we are better than he is hut we'll give him a run for his money." Hidebound, Nicky Henderson's unbeaten novice hurdler, whose trainer says "can do just about anything except walk on water" will run in the £25,000 Tolworth Hurdle at Sandown on Saturday, a race won last year by French Holly on his way to

Cheltenham Festival success.



Adrian Maguire, confidence restored after a turbulent week with two victories at Cheltenham on Friday, maintains the winning momentum aboard Nipper Reed in the novice chase that opened the card at Newbury on Saturday

King closer to crown Newbury

DAVID NICHOLSON'S assistant, horses and I'll 'play around' Alan King, is to emerge from his boss's ahadow at Jackdaws Castle and train some of the stahle's horses for a Flat campaign next summer.

King yesterday refused to speculate whether it means that be will eventually take over from Nicholson, who said last week that be intends training for two or three more years. The trainer was embroiled in controversy when Adrian Maguire decided to step down from the position of stable jockey after suggestions that he may be usurped by Richard Johnson. "We'll have a three or four

with them," King said. "I spent last summer with Sir Michael Stoute but I will be under the guidance of the boss. My name won't appear on the racecard as you are not able to have two

training licences at one yard." The atable's owner, Colin Smith, said: "This is the first step in grooming Alan to be handed the day-to-day running when 'The Duke' decides to leave. He is going to train a few Flat horses and will be in charge of this side of the operation though the licence will remain in David's name. I have made that plain to David."

TODAY'S CARD at Newbury and tomorrow's meeting at Newton Abbot have become the latest victims of the weather. At the Berkshire venue. which staged a card on Saturday, the cierk of the course, Richard Pridham, said: "We had 12mm of rain overnight. there is a huge amount coming down now and there is more forecast so it was hopeless."

Newton Abbot, which also lost its Boxing Day meeting, is the 12th jumps meeting this season to be lost to the weather.

PAUL CARBERRY may have The stewards called the jockey forfeited his chance of landing in for "having appeared to

> 10 days. Ruby Walsh - on the 55-winner mark this term - should now be able to extend the margin of three he holds over Carberry to put the championship

at Leopardstown. "I would say Advocat is the first string as he runs well in these type of races - he was second in the County en, to the winners' enclosure. Hurdle," Meade said yesterday.

SOUTHWELL

2.30 Whitley Grange Boy 3.00 Nathan'a Hero (nh) 3.30 Love Blues

1.30 C-Harry 2.00 General Klaire GOING: Standard STALLS: Inside ORAW ADVANTAGE: High 5t; Low 6t to Tri.

LEADING JOCKEYS: J Weaver 47-283 (168%), J Culturi 38-542 (7%), L Charmock 35-394 (89%), G Duffield 34-256 (13.2%), C Teegue 30-303 (89%).

E FAVOURITES: A56-1335 (34.3%), G Teegue 30-303 (89%), B LINKERED FIRST TIME: Fixed Frame (12.3th Alwarm Miscred, 100), Payware Boy 633th

BU	NKERED	PRIST TIME: Firs	A Frame (230), Alwena (v	espred, 1001	taywar	o Boy (330)
1	2.30	HERTFORD (CLASS F)	SHIRE Div I) £	CLASSIFIE	D CLAIN 7f Penalt	IING y Valu	STAKES ie £2,110
1	02000-	FIRST FRAME (126) FLAME TOWER (16)	(J Flouriste	se) D Straw 4 9 3.	,	N Pob	ard (5) 13 B
2	54.10	FLAME TOWER (16)	(S J McCa)	/ RHarmon 493.		R	Smatth (7) 2

2	54-10-	FLAME TOWER (16) (S J McCay) RHamon 4 9 3 A Smith (7)
3		ROYAL CASCADE (33) (C) (R L Bedding) 8 McMahon 5 9 3 V Halliday 12 8
4		BARITONE (97) (Holinbridge Racing) S Kettlewell 5 9 1
5	000000	MEZZORAMIO (14) (C) (D) (TR Pryke) K Morgan 7 8 5:
6	04426-	MOST RESPECTFUL (17) (C) (R O Manners) N Triver 6 6 13
7	40:00	UNITUS (J13) (8 Brown) M Chapman 6 B 13S Righton (7) 1
8	10030	NERVOUS REX (105) (0) (V Greekes) D Nichols 5 B 71
g	04013-	FAYM (19) (D) (J Wharton) J Wherton 5 8 B J Quinn 1
10	0/000-	FONZY (13) (C) (Northgate Lodge Racing) M Brittan 5 8 8 M Semple (7) 6
71		TAXLWIND (34) (R Hairr) W May 5 87 Martin Dwyer 14
2	00000	GILDERSLEVE (16) (Lancing Racing) N Berry 4 6 6
13		SING FOR ME (33) (Mess S Hollinsheart) R Hollinsheart 4 6 4
×	50000-	STATELY FAVOUR (34) (C) (Eite Flacing) Miss J Carrecho 4 8 4L Charmock 11

BETTUNG: 7-2 Fayra, 4-1 Royal Cascade, 5-1 Piarre Tower, 6-1 Most Respectfu vous Rex, 12-1 First Frame, Mczoramio, Sing For Me, Talfwind, 16-1 ottera 1996: Theatre Magic 5 B ft J Farning 4-1 (D Shein) drawn (8) 11 ran

FORM GUIDE

First Frame: Runner-up to Miss Salsa Dancer at Thirsk in May for Les Eyre but still a maker. Has since twice changed yards and is maker. Has for Les Eyre but still a maker. Has since twice changed yards and is making all-weather debut. Plane Tower: Made all to land of poor 'Im maker at Whampton last month. Rescribly weighted and capable of bold show over best trip. Hoyal Caecade: Fibresand specialist, impressive winner of 6f Whampton claimer lest and every change at the weights but yet to prove he stays 7f.

Rantomer Placed 9 from a 27 described the makers. est and every chance at the weights but yet to prove he stays ?!

Barthone: Placed 9 times in 2? starts, but still a malden. Lively to need run after 14week break since 2-length 2nd to Most Respectful over 6t here in September

Mezzoramio: Winner over 1m here in 1995, but without a win since July following year.
Highly task on latest 7th of 14 to Ethabuts at Lingheld (Im2l hosp.)

Most Respectful: Series of good efforts here, including length 2nd to Selty Behavious in 71 soller and staying-on 8 lengths 8th of 16 Ethan Ledger in 61 seler latest. On a taimark and should be thereabours from a handy drew

Linting Baster ruse within service.

in 77 seller and staying-on 8 lengths 6th of 16 Etton Ledger in 61 seller latest. On a fair mark and should be thereabouts from a handy draw. Unitus: Beaten over hundles since 34 lengths last of 12 to Par Cry over finet here last month. Likely to find trip on sharp sede and little obvious chance. Nevrous Rex: Haydock (77) and Leocester (6), win in midsumminer. On a fair mark but ran badly only filtresend start and has 105-day ebsence to overcome. Paym: Rumning well in handicapis, leading to 21 out when 17-length 3rd of 12 to C-Harry at Whampton (77) latest, latestly drawn for front-runner and weighted for leading rote. Forezy: Course witner in 1956 but without a win for three years and tailed off over 8f here last month.

Tailwind: On a long losing run. Held at the weights by Most Respectful on two efforts over C/D in Nov/Dec and badly placed with wide draw. Gildenslove: Placed twice in 14 starts. Likely to struggle on latest 11th of 13 to Prospec-GNORMANCE: MERCE TWICE IT IN SEATS. LIVERY TO STRUGGE OF BREAK THIS IS SET PROSPEC-tor's Cover at Lingfield (TM2) froigs, equitisch). Sting For Me: One win from 30 starts. Slow starter last 3 outrings, but not disgraced when 10 lengths 8th of 12 to Malia at Whempton (6f claim) latest Stately Fevour: Runner-up over C & O in March and successful in 5f maiden here fol-lowing month. Out of sorts lately and 12th of 13 over 8f here latest

VERDICT: With the well-drawn Flame Tower and Flayor Birdy to be contesting the early load this looks sure to be run at a heate gallop. Payor might win the early battle and also run the first out of Royal Cascade but could play into the hands of BIOST RESPECTFUL, who should be string pretty for a late run.

[1.00	LEICESTERSHIRE MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN APPRENTICE STAKES (F) £3,000 1m 3f Pen Value £2,137
1	08500-	LAA JADEED (42) (6 Docon) M Polylese 4 8 13
2	00-6	THE SILK THIEF (2) (Mrs M A Bainley) J Jenkins 4 B 13
3	63000-	BLUE HOPPER (J30) (M Quint) M Quint 58 11
4	-2000	ALWENA (17) (EF) (Edgar Lloyd) S C Williams 488
5	00/00-	LADY OF GUADALOPE (103) (Forgotten Travelers) O Coegrove 4 6 8 P Fizzimoris (6) 2
6	00060-	UTTLE IMP (146) (Mrs E M Burke) X Burke 4 66
7	45223-	MOCTURNE (JZ1) (Uncle Jacks Pub) S Kenternal 4 8 8
B	247E E	CANTADERS (1) (D. N. Verret, D. Marchen, C. P. S.

BETTING: 4-5 Noctume, 9-2 Santarens, 8-1 Awena, 10-1 Blue Hopper, 12-1 Lee Jade tle Imp. 20-1 Lady Of Goadslope, 33-1 The SIR Title! 1998 Cruz Santa 5 8 4 Care Lund (7) 12-1 (M Chapman) drawn (f) 10 ran

FORM GUIDE

Las Jadeed: First run for Mark Polglase since leaving Jeremy Glover. Yet to be placed in 10 outnings and has shown little aptitude for the AW in 2 outnings. The Silk Thieft: Slowy away on his first 2 outnings on turf and was struggling from helitway when 6th (bith 45% langtins) on his AW debut at Lingdield (firstly on Seturday when 6th (bith 45% langtins) on his AW debut at Lingdield (firstly on Seturday when 6th open Fletums atter a 4-month layoff and it is come time since sine she has shown any form. Run her best race on the AW when 2nd to Bethe in Light at Wolverhempton in March, but stable have gone 40 weeks without a Flat winner. Alwents Visored first time and was up with the leaders until weekening 3f out when 7th for Cry here (firstly in November, Finished 7 lengths behind Noctume (3rd) and it 7to worse off.

Lady Of Guadatope: Ex-linit fifty, little sign of ability in her lest 3 outings and has not

This shop is Supplember. Stable have gone 4 months without a Fist winner.

Little limp: Tries this trip for the first time and has shown poor form in sellers. Telled off 7th of 8 on her lest outing on the AW here (7f) in January and crambe looks remose Mochames the pace and was caught in the last stribe when bit is hid by Fiver Captain over C/D in October. Third here need time over this trip and dovices chance. in weak race, though stable have not had a Flat winner for 5 months Santarener Ran her best race on furf when 2nd to Lucky Double in a 10t seller at Leicester in September, Could make no impression in the final 41 when 6th to Thekrysel at Lingfield last Friday (101) and will not find many easier races

VERDICT: Although Stave Kertlewell has gone 21 weeks without a Flat whiner, NOC-TURINE deserves a chance of luck. He failed by a shit hid to overhaut Chocolete Sox at Lingfield in October and then was caught close home when besten a head by River Capitain over this detaince here next time. If he makes the running he will be hard to

1.30 HERTFORDSHIRE CLASSIFIED CLAIMING STAKES

_	.00	(CLASS F) (DIV II) £2,750 added 7f Penalty Value £2,110
		KOBLASEPH (18) (C) Li Shirel R March 793 TG McCaughtin 5
		BLUSHING GRENADIER (34) (R M Wheatey) S R BOWING 7 6 G C Regul (3) 8 8
		C-HARRY (19) (D) (D Copperhal) R Holinsheed 5 6 t3
		KOSEVO (13) (CD) (K Netrole) D Shaw 56 B
		LOBUCHE (63) (G Whitered) M Chapman 4 6 ff S Righton (7) 6
		SEAU VIEWA (42) (Forth Partnershap) A Diction 46 TJ Door McKnown 13 B
		DESERT INVADER (97) (CD) (D Crapman) D Crapman 8 6 6
		THE BARNSLEY BELLE (17) (CU) OX Maynell G Woodward 8 8 8 L Newton 10
		MAI TAI (30) (W G Berker) D Barker 4 B 6 T Trillians 8
		MAYDORO (17) (M Dods) M Dods 6 6 6 Dale Gibson 1
		MOLLY MUSIC (5) (C) (W Hatlersby) G Margarson 5 6 4 J Quinn 12 5
		TAKE CARE (13) (M H Keogh) M Tomplets 4 8 4
		E B TREASURE (416) (T Umpleby) N Byorch 4 6 2

- 13 getainte - 19 getainte -

FORM GUIDE

Komaseph: Successful twos here over 6t but has been out of form this winter and did not appear to stay i'm when thish of 12 at LingSeld last month. Finished behind The Barreley Self (6th) when last of 15 here (1m) in November. But this Show has shown title since winning a 6th top at Newcestle (soft) in October. Bedly drawn when 11th of 15 to Komaseph (Desert Invader 7th) here (5t) in

C-Harry: Won a seller over this trip at Wolverhampton in November and then followed up in a handing there lest month. Consistent and good chance in this easer contest Koservo: Weakened over 11 out when 6th to C-Harry at Wolverhampton (7f) lest month and is 6th worse off. Successful twice over Q/D, but hard task at the weights Lobuchts Februras from a 10-week legott and seams better on but than the AW, Phi-ished behind Desert Invader (6th) when 11th of 15 to Sue Me here (6th in September Beaut Viennas: Hes yet to make the harne in 10 outlings on the AW and but Serviced again, but showed no improvement when fitted with them for the first time here (im) in November when 14th of 55 (bit 28 lengths) behind Holy Smoke Deaest Invades: In good form on the AM during the summer (won over C/D in June), but has not run since September and is held by C-Harry and Komaceph on recent run-

The Barnsley Belle: Bids to and a long losing run as her last success was over this C/D in April, 1997 when trained by Les Eyre. Left him in May and is struggling to find her form for her new yard.

Mail Risk Still a medden and failed to distinguish herbelf on her first run for her new yard,
and AW debutt when slowly away and Still at to Faym at Wolverhamton (71) less
month. Stable have gone 11 weeks without a Flat winner.

Maydoro: Has shown lets fam in selens and claimers, though was soon outpaced when 15th of 16 behind Bton Ledger here (61) lest morth on only her 2nd run since July, Made no show on her only attempt at this trip last year. Mothy Munic: Stands plenty of recing, but her last success was in a 1m majden hand-loap here in June last year. Badly drawn and birnkered for the first time since March last

year (no show) Take Carne Soon outpaced and behind here (5f) last month and linished last of 10 in are: Missed last season and no sign of ability in 3 outings on the AW last

year. Stable have not had a Flat winner for 10 months VERDICT: Most of these can be ruled out on what they have achieved on the eli-Bather and C-HARRY is one of the law in term. Successful two times at Wicker he is obviously well suited by this surface. Mobily Music is tried in binkers for the first time since her two-year-old days, though her skable are going through a lean spell and have not had a Flat winner for tive months.

2.00 BEDFORDSHIRE HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,000 added

00	fillies & mares of Penalty Value £2,840
	GENERAL KLARE (SQ (D) (T Stainter) B Michigan 4 'D (
	YANGHAMI (USA) (19) (TG & Me M E Hottor2) J Berry 49 12
	BLITE HOPE (USA) (I) (II) (III) (III) (III) (III) N Tinker 798
D/300-	MYSTICSM (215) (Mis C British) C British 4 9 8
	CASATI (107) (P Folgate) P Felgate 4 9 0 S Righton (7) 4
	CANCIDYA (T3) (CD) (General Sir Gentley Hawlett) M Polytise 4 8 T3
	HELTONS EXECUTIVE 67 (CT) (D Hillor) E Alson 5 8 12
	INTIAASH (Z) (D) (R Howard Thomas) Olleyth Jones 78 12 S Withwarth 7
30000	HUPIGELL LADY (225) (G A Harler) O Nichola 5 B 10 IN Rechardson 5
	SOLO SPEET (2) (D) (Mrs Hampson) J. Jerlons 487
	LURVAR MUSIC (17) P J Doctor S R Bowreg 5 8 3
	SCINITILATING SOUND (42) DA'S Z Grang S R Bowning 4 B 2
	ITALIAN ROSE (19) (S Agostro) A Carrol 4 B 1,
	DYCE (150) (Ass G AR Jones) J Belding 57 10 L Charnock B &
MUNE.	DIAL MARI SEVER OF the S.F. Common Library Statute 5.7 on N. Confidence 12

African weight 7st 10th. The handing highs to be declared –

African weight 7st 10th. The handing weights: Dyec 7st 8th, Overlain Silver 7st 8th.

BETTING: 9-2 Hilliams Executive, 5-1 Ellie Hope, 6-1 General Kleine, 13-2 Schrifteling Sound, 8-1 Dahldys, Yacoment, 10-1 Inthusik, 12-1 Byeddison, 14-1 Casall, Hurgill Lieby, 16-1 others 1988 Reer Energi 5 7 6 A McCartly (7) 7-2 (W Brisbourne) drawn (f) 9 ran

FORM GUIDE

General Kiakre: Returned after 2-month layoff to run Blon Ledger to a shit hid over C/D last month. Has been raised just 11b, but high draw against him Yanomami: Only 6th on AW debut at Lingfield in November, but seemed more suited by this surface when whining mauden at Wolverhampton (6t) next time. More to do here Elite Hope: Useful AW performer and has won 7 times at Wolverhampton between 64-71. Has been dropped 4th since finishing 5th to Price Of Brodon there test month with Historia Executive (now 7to worse off) 5 tangths away in 6th

Mysticiaers Stiff a maiden effer 12 outings and third over 51 on her AW debut in Peb-rusry, Useful form as at 250, particularly when 5th in Newbury's Super Sprint, but does not seem to have treated on Cassati: Makes AW debut and first run for new stable. Placed twice from 12 outings in Cases: Market your becut and roar on or new seasor, Places involved not he outings in lineard and the handcaspper has not taken any chances with her Dehildyer. Raised 8th after winning over C/D test month from a low draw, Well drawn again, but started slowly when 4th to Hilberts Executive over C/D in November, is 5th worse of with the winner and 1th worse off with Scindiburg Sound (3nd) Hilberts Executive: Won her 3rd race on the AW at Wolverhampton (61) last month with

Pite Hope (Sib better off for 2% lengths) is 4th. Who over C/D in November, but is 6th worse off with Schriftsting Sound (Sird) for just over 1 length influence off with Schriftsting Sound (Sird) for just over 1 length influence Stavy away when 5th to Hitters Executive at Wolverhampton (6t) lest time and only 7th better off for 7% lengths Stayed on to finish 3rd at Lingfield on Saturday, but has not you for 17 moratise and stable have not had a Fiel winner for over 4 months. Hurgitt Lady: Melden handicapper and numer-up 3 times on the AW last year, includ-ing once over C/O, Well drawn, but has not run for 7 months. Salid Spirit: Seems of Ritie account on the AW and dwell at the start and was always.

ang cross over vict, west aream, but now no run for more and state start and was always Solic Spirit: Seems of Ritis account on the AW and dwarf at the start and was always behind in the race won by Mukamab at Lingfield (61) on Saturday (Indiaesh 3rd) Lusair Music: Won at Nottingham (51) in August, but out of form sance then and made no show when 1th of 8 in Eton Ledger's race over C/D last stree Scintiliating Sound: Maden, modest form in claimers on run and AW. Ran one of her better races when 3rd to Hittoris Executive over C/D in November and is 5to better of for last over 1 length.

a may wares our o montes. Dyoe: Only form when whening 5t handicap off a 3to lower mark at Wolverhampton in July. First race since August and seems better at 5t (weakened 2t when unplaced on

east ourning over on.

Cualitative Silver: Poor maldon handicapper: Drops back in trip after finishing 6th to Hi
Mujtaind at Wolverhampton ("tri"/a") last month. Always outpaced on her last outing over
this trip here in November

VERDICT: Although he has a high draw to overcome ELITE HOPE is ideally suited by this surface having won seven times at Wolverhampton. He legst on well in the clos-ing stages to finish fourth to Hillians Executive there lest month and has a good chance.

2.30 CAMBRIDGESHIRE HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,000 added 2m Pensity Value £2,814

-		
	60,660	GENERAL ASSEMBLY (J23) (The Craftment) G Margarson 7 10 0
		TL PRINCIPE (S) (C) (D) (The 1997 Partnersho) John Berry 59 ft A Culture 7
		WHITLEY GRANGE BOY (17) (CD) (M'S C Syles) JL Byre 6 66
	20504-	CHABROL (CAM) (J42) (Chabrol Permership) P Gilligan 688
		NECTA'S STAR (13) (C) (D Parter) M Britain 895
	53245-	PIPE MUSIC (51) (C) (Lord Scaradale) P Haston 4 9 2 L Charnock 6
	40025	WILD CAMARY (17) (C) (CR Buttery) OMaria 4 6 B
		WESTERY (USA) (8) (M F Barrachugh) Mass A Stoket 108 5
		NOTATION (77) (C) (J M Chapman) D Chapman 5 62
		NORTHERN CHARAGE (1945) (Bibly Heliday Permenship) E Alston 7 7 10 _ J Quillett - 10 declared -

turn weight 7st 10th. This handicas weight Northern Charmer 1st 4th. SETTING: 5-2 II Principe, 7-2 Wild Cavary, 9-2 Whitery Grange Boy, 11-2 Nikks's Star, 8-1 Chabrol, 10-1 General Assembly, Pipe Music, 16-1 others 998: Noden 7 9 8 F Lynch 12-1 (B Hollenhead) drawn (b) 12 mm FORM GUIDE

General Assembly: Formerly sheet stayer for Herry Cecil. No form on Pibreeand and tailed off over hundles at Donouster lest month. It Principes in feir form with 2nd to Arctic Thunder at Whampton and 2 lengths 3nd to Coleridge at Lingsfeld (2m Iroqa) from the merk, but possibly in handcapperts grip whatey Grange Boy: C/D winner from 16 lower lest Jan and returning to form when 10 lengths 4th of 12 to Fer Cry over 1m 4f here lettest. One to conside

Carberry confused

the Irish Jockeys' Championship after picking up a 10-day ban at Naas yesterday. Riding Sallie's Girl for Noel Meade in a £20,000 novices' hurdle, Carberry became "confused" and, expecting to go round for another circuit, passed the winning post standing up in his stirrups. The pair were beaten only three-quarters of a length by Glazeaway.

As the winner pulled up, Carberry started to head out for another circuit only to realise his mistake and return, shakmake no effort" and after hearing his apology, banned him for

beyond his rival's grasp. On Saturday, Carberry will ride Advocat, the favourite, for Meade in the Ladbroke Hurdle

Chabrot: Runner-up over C/D in February from Sib lower but on a long losing run. Showed title on turf last year and well beaten over hundles in November. Niddle's Ster: Fibreaand specialist. First win for 2 years when made all to bit Golden Lyric here (tin-fit) from 41 lower latest. Stays 2m and should be thereabouts. Pipe Music: Intrinsisen winner here in February. Stays In-45 but trying new trip after one-passed 5th of 13 to Tropical Beach at Whampton (tim hosp) in November. Wild Cantary: Int3! maden winner here in February. Confirmed return to form when one-passed 10 lengths 5th of 12 to Far Chy over first here latest and is closely weighted with 8 Princips on previous finds run. Promises to play leading role. Weathaby: Wilnout a win sincer1962. Not disgraced in first Whampton seller latest eart but plany to find.

Triff winner from 3th higher 13 months ago but little impression two starts here in July and October and is probably best watched at present Northern Chemier: Unplaced in seven starts over three seasons but unraced on the Northern Chermer: Ur Flat for almost 2 years

VERDICT: The step up to 2m could see WILD CANARY back in a winning role. She is running off a 5b lower mark than when dividing Far Cry and II Principe over this? here less month and should just confirm placings with the third on these terms. Doug Marke' filly found in 4f too short here 17 days ago but did sufficient to confirm her well-

3.00 DERBYSHIRE SELLING STAKES (CLASS G) \$2.500

.00	added 3YO 1m Penalty Value £1,847
65000-	CYRO (17) (W G Swers) D Nichols 9 3
006-	LAKE METERA (26) IP J M M Racing! M Tomolons 8 12
DODD-	OTTLE BUT BLUE (19) IP 8 R Abrasives Ltd) M Warno R T2
36320-	MATHAN'S MERC (44) (ISF) (Mrs. J. Huchest R. Holimshand B. 12
00-	ONAROND BLUSH (15) (Unity Form Holidays) N Littmoden B 7
000000	E B PEARL (42) (T Umpleby) N Bycroft B 7 S Drowne 2
50404-	GOLDEN SYRUP (122) IP Hawfrot P Hawfrot R 7

SETTING: 2-1 Cyro, 5-2 Golden Syrup, 11-4 Nethan's Hero, 6-1 Lake Mahre, 12-1 Diamond Bit 25-1 Little Boy Slue, 33-1 E B Por

1998: Sharway Lady 3 8 7 J Bramhill 12-1 (B McMahon) distorn (5) 11 ran

FORM GUIDE Cyro: 61 turt winner for Michael Janvis in June. Little show on first run for new handler over 5t here last month, Yet to show he stays beyond 7t but down in grade and one to

over the east month, tell to show he stays buyonal in out down in grade and died to watch in the betting the staying on 10 lengths 6th of 14 to Done And Dusted at Lingdeld (7f claimer) last month after lay-off. Unproven on this surface, but possibilities over this extra furing.

Little Boy Blue: No sign of ability in four starts, including sellers.

Nation's Herro: Disappointing latest, but chance on previous sterying-on "A length 2nd to Swiss Tork in him seller here. Looks a leading player Diamond Bitmit: Well besten both starts and little obvious chance E B Peart: Unplaced in 10 starts, including all-weather. Outpaced when 21 lengths 7th of 11 to Done And Dusted in 77 seller here in November

Golden Syrup: Unplaced in 5 starts for Richard Harmont, Bright chance on 2 lengths 4th of 22 to Mammas F-C at Haydock (6f claimer, good to firm) in Septembner, but yet to race on foresand and lacks recent outing

VERIDICT: Cyro and Golden Syrup are the two to best on turi form, but they are virtually unproven on librestand, so it may pay to go along with NATHAN'S HERO, whose second to Swiss Toni over CrD entitles him to every chance.

3.30 LINCOLNSHIRE HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,000 added 3YO

	1m Penalty Value £2,827
9210-	SUMSET LADY (34) (D) Litate Of All Trades Pship) P Hestern 9 7
ours.	LLIVE DEDEC (USA) MOI ON LIONA) M. DYNSMY R. 7
ww.	SIGNE TITLE PROFILE CONTRACTOR AND THE STATE OF THE STATE
WW.	THE THIRD COUNTY IN THE TOTAL STATE OF THE TOTAL ST
000000	FOURTH TIME LUCKY (19) (M E Fonton) B Murray 7 10

Meanum weight: 7st 10th. True handicap weight: Fourh Time Lucky 7st.
BETTING: 9-4 Surget Listy, 11-4 Love Blues, 7-2 Alama's Cavaller, 8-1 State Whed, 16-1 Bustling
Rio, Raywers Boy, 14-1 Fourth Time Lucky
1986: Danding Rio 3 9 5 L Charmook 8-1 (P Hadam) drawn (2) 6 ran FORM GUIDE

Surset Lardy: Outstandingly pick of weights on turf form, with wins at Thirsk, Ayr and Pontetract, but below best when 30 lengths 14th of 16 to Windshift on libresand debut Love Blues: Appreciated return to longer trip when 4 lengths 3rd of 10 to Co 6e Be at Largifield (fin hosp, equitack) latest. Has run well here and should not be far away from 2th lower with smart 5to claims: aboard ing Hero: No sign of ability in three starts, including all-weather, Looks stable sec-

one string on handcap deput.

State Wind: Little sign of ability and bin 19 lengths when 13th of 14 to Bartholomew et Linghist (Si hcap, equitrack) on latest start.

Rayware Boy: Beetan more than 13 lengths on each of his four starts, including two outings on fibresand.

Alema's Cavallen: Could take a hand on her 4 lengths 4th to Windshift over C/O less month and weighted to go close from 6th lower here, but disappointing lest two starts Fourth Time Lucky: Odd sign of ability in 3 starts but bith 16 lengths when 8th of 11 to Miss Take at Whampton (7f sell) (letset and little obvious chance.

VERIDICT: The waghts favour Susset Lady on fur form, but she was never really going on her fibresand debut and may need a race or two to adapt LOVE BLUES has not found the switch of surface a problem and is probably the safer bet with the telerand Robbie FitzPatrick aboard.

¥THE INDEPENDENT

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Calls cost 50p per enimate. T.LS. Ltd, Scrutton 9 RC2A 49

NEWBURY Going: Heavy 12.48: 1. NIPPER REED (A Megand 9-4 sey, 2. Louist say 5-2; 3. Kingsfold Pet 9-1.7 ran. 3 nk. (F Smeson, Forth). Tota: 5290; 5180, 5220. DF: \$420, CSF: \$753. 6290; SIBO, 6220. OF: CA20, CSF: 5753.

1.15: 1. FOURTH IN LINE (N Williamson)
6-4 fav; 2. Danties Cavaller 4-1; 3. Golden Spianer 8-1.8 ran. Dist, dist. (Miss V Williams, Herstord). Tota: \$200; \$150, \$250.

OF: 6370. CSF: \$1895. Tricase: \$256.2 NR: Cyborg De Beautai, Mr President.

1.45: 1. BOSUNIS MATE (C Llewellyn) 2-1 tav; 2. Yeoman Sailor 18-2; 3. Russell Road 9-2.10 ran. 5.23. (N Invision-Devies, Chetterland). That \$230; \$210. CMD \$240. \$200. tav; 2, Yeoman Sallor 15-2; 3, Russell Road 9-2, 10 ran, 5, 23 (N Twiston-Dewes, Chettenham), Bote; 6310; 610, 6240, 6200 DF, 6330, 657; 6164, 6200, 6240, 6200, 6215; 1, RightTsAIDFRED (G Bradley) B-1; 2, Ask Antony 3-1; 3, Yoni's Tip 9-1 8 ran, 5-2 fav Speriding Cone (pulled up), 3/3, 9, (Mss A Newton-Smith, Pologate), Totac 6380, 6150, 6140, 6170, DF, 61870, CSF; 23062, Titoas; 220328.

Total 2580: £190, £140, £170, DF: Libero. CSF: £3052, Thicast: £203.28 2.45: 1, KING'S ROAD (£ Limetry) 11-10 far. 2. Rich King 7-2: 3. Starm Of Gold 10-1 5 ram. 2, 18 (N Twiston-Davids, Challenham). Total: £190; £120, £210, DF; £310, CSF; £451.

3.15: 1. MOORISH (C Llewellyn) 9-1; 2. Bold Gelt 2-1 fav; 3. City Hall 100-30, 7

Place 8: £15.78. Place 5: £10.81. UTTOXETER

12.55: 1. FOLLOW DE CALL (S. Wynne) 16-1; 2. Astral Investon 14-1; 3. Centeur Express 11-8 fav. 8 ran. 1½, 4. (D. McCan. Cholmondeley). Tota: \$2230; \$230. \$200. \$210. DF: \$5280. CSF. \$15471. Tincast:

£180. 52.70, £150. DF; £2750. GSF; £2983. 1.55; 1. MADISON COUNTY (A P McCoy) 7-2; 2. Share Options 7-4 fav; 3. In Truth 4-1 4 van. 9, dst. (P Hobbs, Wirethood). Total £180. DF; £380. GSF; £223. 2.25; 1. FLYING GUNNER (R Thomass) 9-4 lar; 2. Dom Betrano 11-2; 3. Cool Spring

8-4 fev. 6 ran. 11/4, 11/4. (D Nichelson, Pemple Guitrig). Total: \$2270, \$150, \$390, DF: \$1070, CSF: \$1257, NF: Stewarts Pride 2.55: 1. BELMOREERUNO () P | Pemple 2.55: 1. BELMOREERUNO () P | Pemple 2.55: 1. BELMOREERUNO () P | Pemple 2.50, DF: \$270, CSF: \$275. 2. Pemple 2.50, DF: \$270, CSF: \$275. 2. Pemple 2.50, DF: \$270, CSF: \$275. 2. Michaelite 4-6 fav; 3. Alta 9-1.10 ran. 1/2. 13. (J Dunlon, Arunde). Total: \$250, \$250, CSF: \$274. Pleospot: \$250, DF: \$200, CSF: \$274. Pleospot: \$250, Dundpot: \$2440, Pleos 8: \$13045, Place 9: \$5002

LINGFIELD

Etiti DF: 85280 CSF: £19471 Tocast: 28704.

1.28: 1. PRUSSIA (G Tormey) 5-1; 2. Orange Place 11-2; 3, Rusk 11-4 tav. 10 5-2, 2. Alsohib 4-7 tav; 3. Dionys 12-1 7 ran. 11/4, 4 (W Clay, Pulford). Totas: £537.

£180. £2.10, £160. DF: £2750. CSF: £280. 1.10: 1. MUKARRAB (A Curlane) 70-30 1.55; 1. MADISON COUNTY (A P McCor) 7-2; 2. Share Options 7-4 fev; 3. In Truth 4-1 4 ran. 9, dsc. (P Hobis, Mysthesd). Totas: £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £170. £17

220 DF: 230 CSF: DOTO Tricast 14800 2.10: 1. SCRAGGYS DREAM (A Cark) 25-1; 2.5ky 13-3-1; 3. Nadisha 15-1 13 ran. 17-8 isv Smpty Megical (48t), 3, 2 (F Mitchel): Tola: £25:50: £5:00, £7:00, £3:00 DF: £1,472.40. CSF: \$205.78. NPC Bar DF: ICAT2AU CSF: INSIGTA INC Barrinoo Garden:
2.40: 1. DANCING BIO (M Tebburt) 16-1;
2. Swen Hunter 9-1; 3. Be Warmed 9-1; 2. 1284. 4-1 fav Writte Plains: 2%, 74. (P Hassam), 764s: CST_676 CSEO, CSSO, CSBO, DF: DEBAC CSF: CSGOS THESE TEZEODO. 3.10; 1. THREADNEEDLE (P Doe) 16-1; 2. Topton 70-1; 2. Big Ban 14-1; 4. Bidfi 6-1 16 ran, 4-1 fav Sice Barria, 74. 5 (K Burte), Totac DSBO, CSBO, CSBO, CSBO, DF: S2200, CSF: E5740. Tricast: CSBO, DF: S2200, CSF: E5740. Tricast: CSBS, 1. ACD TEST (R FREDBRICK) 4-1 lav. 2. OK, John 75-2; 3. Friendly Brave 11-2. 13 ran, St-Ho, 2%, (M Backley), Totac CSBO; C270, C220, CSBO, DF: E3370, CSF: CSBS, Tricast: E5002.

SATURDAY'S RESULTS

ETIES Tricast: £15002 Jackpot: Not wan; £5,906,88 carried for-Tricest: £157.91.
1.40: 1. SOAKED (A Culhane) 7-2; 2. Tear
White 9-4 tay; 3. Haif Torse 8-1 8 ran. 1%,
Place 6: £148.20. Place 5: £107654.

12-20: 1. Thank's Kelly II Gaussi 2:1 12.20: 1. THANKS SETTING TAKEN 1.1
22.20: 1. THANKS SETTING TAKEN 1.1
25. cist. (J J O'Neil). Your cano; 210, 2210.
DF: 2330. CSF: 2808.
12.50: 1. HURST FLYER (A Dobbin) 3-1:
2. Mike Stan 11-10 lav. 3 ran. Sh-hd. (F Martagh). Tota: £290. DF: £140. CSF: £249.
1.20: 1. CUICK MARCH. (N Horrocks)
1.40: 1. CUICK MARCH. (N Horrocks)
1.40: 1.20: CUICK MARCH. (N Horrocks)
1.40: 1.40: CUICK MARCH. (N Horrocks)
1.40: 1.40: CUICK MARCH. (N Horrocks)
1.40: 1.40: CUICK MARCH. (N Horrocks) 11-6 for, 2. Who Derris Wins 6-4; 3. Political Militatar 33-1. 11 sen. 11/. 18. (E. Weymes). Tota: 12-20; CHO \$10.0830. DF-02-90. CSF: 23-01. NF: Sail On Sci. 1.50: 1. CHIPPED OUT (C McCormack) 7-4 ks; 2. Committed Schedule 6-1; 3. Coquitane 4-1, 7 ran. 3. 14. (M Todhunish). Tota: 12-90; 52-20; 63-20. DF- 27-20. CSF: \$10-53. 2-20: 1. CRYSTAL, GIFT (N Horrorks) 8-1; 2. Land Podgeta 100-30. 3. Palacegate King 5-4 fav. 6 ran. 2/4. Ad. (A Witsland). Tota: 12-90; 53-40, 52-20. DF: \$20-90. CSF: \$21-90. CSF: \$21-90. CSF: \$10-90. CSF: \$21-90. CSF: \$10-90. CSF: \$21-90. CSF: \$10-90. CSF: \$10-9

3.20: 1. BIR MAHDLO (B Marding) 3-1; 2. Aren't We Lucky 7-2; 3. Ruber 14-1 7 ran. 5-2 fev Palace Of Gold (6th), 3½, 4. (R Bandware 1982 14), 12 2360 CSF: \$1195 Placepot: £168:10. Otterdpot: £53:10. Place 6: £77:90. Place 5: £6173. SOUTHWELL

GOUTHWELL Going: Standard

12.30: 1. TOM (Mrs S Bosley) 9-1; Deadheet 2. Live Project 10-1 & Miles All Alone 9-1; 4. Tilself 20-1 16 ram, 3-1 fav Blooming Amazing (Stri), Hid. deadheat, (C Fairturet) Tota: £350; £210, Live Project £250, Miss. All Atone £190, £550. DF: Tom, Live Project £8270, Tom, Miss All Alone £3957, Treast: Tom, Live Project, Miss All Alone £3957, Treast: Tom, Live Project, Miss All Alone £39508, Tom, Miss All Alone £39508, To

Pales C(7.28. Holy Smoke, Mutaban, Mutahadeth 17.24.

1.30: 1. JBERREN (T Smith 7.2. 2

Lateral 5-2, 3. Frambo Walter 7-4 fav.
14 ran. 4 n. (P Howing) Toke 9450: E170,
E170, E130 DF: E830 CSF: E157,
2.00: 1. JUST WIZ (Dean McKeown) 7-2 if fav. 2. Baron De Pictoro 7-2 if fav. 3. Brits Doodybushees 20-1 14 ran. 2½, 8. [Lord Hurtingdon] Tota: E360: E150, E150, E150 DF.
E730 CSF: E388 Tricast: C270-48

2.30: 1. PALACE GREEN (J Farring) 4-1:
2. Erinvale 9-1; 3. Trina's Pet 14-1 10 ran.
5-2 fav. Bread Goldy (6th), Sh. hd. ½, ID Chapman). Tota: E350: E190, E2-30, E320, DF: E130, CSF: E3765. Tricast: E42651

3.80: 1. BINGWAR (F G McLaughin) 7-2:
2. Areist 7-1; 3. Buranies Own 20-1 14 ran. 7-4 fav. Bowne Ville (5th). 8, 7 (N Lithmoden). Tota: E570; E240, E190, E360, DF: E1500, CSF: E57765. Tricast: E456280
DF: E1500 CSF: E5785. Tricast: E456280
Piacapot: C25170, Ouadpot: E1830

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Palara C17128, Holy Smoke, Mutaban, Muta-hadeth C112.44, A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH

Brown plans to build on Durham test

JON BROWN is a contradictory man. As an athlete he believes the competitions he engages in are undermined by the doping irregularities he fears some o his competitors indulge in. After finishing third in Saturday's IAAF World Cross Chaiuntil more widespread testing procedures are introduced, his will be a lost generation in terms of creditable times.

At the same time he was clearly satisfied with his own performance and excited by yet exists. the double target which lies before him of competing in the world championships and the Flora London Marathon.

In his first race since breaking the British 10,000 metres ners against whom he mearecord four months ago, the 27year-old Sheffield runner did enough to suggest he can make a hig impression in the two hig early season events.

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Brown was denied a hattrick of wins at Durham by Ethiopia's 19-year-old world junior champion, Milion Wolde, who finished a few strides ahead of Kenya's Thomas Nyariki. But the Briton con-sidered it his best race of the

A foot injury sustained in September, when he inadvertently trod on a triangular toy building block belonging to his one-year-old son Dylan, forced Brown to miss the European cross-country championships.

But his run-out at the University Playing Fields, on a course bordered by the River Wear and overlooked by Durham Prison, allowed him to set his own huilding block firmly in place for the world championships, to be held in Belfast on 27 and 28 March.

Brown, however, is not even considering the prospect of victory in an event which has

ATHLETICS BY MIKE ROWBOTTOM

for Europeans to win any more," he said. "I think it may be possible to finish in the top lenge he reiterated his view that half dozen. That would satisfy me." The Vancouver-based runner spoke out several times last year about the number of rivals he believed were taking illegal advantage of the blood-booster EPO - for which no reliable test.

> However, he believes the overwhelming Kenyan success at cross-country has been achieved in the main hy fair means, and these are the runsures himself. "I know most of the Kenyans aren't using EPO," he said. "They are the guys I really see as my competition. But the underlying priority is to get better testing in place - if not for me, then for the younger generation. It is the only hope." Brown, fourth in last year's European 5,000m final, was comfortable with the suggestion that, because of persistent doubts over doping abuse, his era of running was effectively a write-off, "More or less," he said. "Lots of people are using stuff they shouldn't and getting away with it. What use is there for me to consider being able to win a major event? I'm surprised more athletes don't make comments

Brown's decision to compete in Belfast just three weeks before he seeks to improve on last year's eighth place in the London marathon is down to the fact that the world crosscountry championships are in the United Kingdom.

"If it was anywhere else, I wouldn't have bothered," he gone to Kenya for the past said. "But I may not have aneight years. "It is not possible other chance to run the world

cross in Britain. It is not parhicularly convenient to do both. but there is no reason why it's

For Britain's newly-installed European cross-country champion Paula Radcliffe, who finished a distant fourth on Saturday behind Ethiopia's 1996 world cross-country cham-pion, Gete Wami, the pressure of racing in front of a home crowd in three months' time is already huilding.

Radcliffe, who is still suffering the after-effects of a cold, faded from contention in the final part of the race. "My energy just went in the last lap." she said. "I've got at least another 20 per cent to add. But that's not a bad thing. If I was in top condition now there's a danger I might overcook things in training."

Her plan now is to race in the IAAF Challenge events at Belfast and Tourcoing, France, before spending a month training at allitude in Albuquerque. John Mayock, the European

indoor 3,000m champion, will set off for warm weather training in Australia this week, but his state of mind was less composed than Radcliffe's on Saturday after he took a wrong turn into the finishing straight a lap early while leading from Phillip Tulba. "The previous time round

we had been given the one lap marker," said Mayock, who eventually finished eighth. "As we came down the straight the official opened the gate to the finish area and then said 'I'm sorry, I'm sorry, there's one more lap to go'. It was a shambles. Diabolical. I trained really hard for this. I wanted to come and stamp my authority here. I know it was my fault for not counting, but when you are trying to win a race you don't concentrate on



Jon Brown of Britain (right) keeps up the pace with the Kenyan Thomas Nyariki (left) and the eventual winner Milion Walde from Ethiopia (centre) at the World Cross Challenge in Durham on Saturday

Golding rues his expensive 'error'

MIKE GOLDING was last night coming to terms with the poscould have sent him crashing out of contention for the Around Alone Race. As he and his shore crew prepared to tow the . Manganiri to Auckland, he said: mistake and was too close to the headland at Cape Reinga. I was 1.7 miles off and thought I was being fairly conservative. I had no need to cut corners."

SAILING

sibility that navigational error BY STUART ALEXANDER

mary satellite positioning system was down and he was using the secondary commu-60-foot Team Group 4 from nication system. "I have the feeling it may not have been "I can only imagine I made a entirely accurate," he said. "On my plots, just five minutes before the impact, I was safe by a mile. It was not a case of fatigue. I just made a mistake. I don't know what to say. I don't But, he explained, his pri- understand it even now."

dearly. Golding was on course to hold first overall at the end of the second leg from Cape Town. Instead he has had to retire from the leg and that means he cannot win overall.

Nor has he yet made a decision on whether to continue for legs three and four to Punta del Este and Charleston, Team Group 4 was in breaking seas when she hit bottom, pushing the keel up through the deck and damaging some of the custom-made engineering. But if ruary and Golding insisted: hours behind the leader.

to have to repair damage it in my beart, I want to continue." would be in Auckland, which Golding may take until Wedneshas several yards specialising day or Thursday to decide in racing sailboats and is gearing up for the America's Cup later this year. The 140-mile tow will take up to 48 hours and the Group 4 team, joined by the boat's French builder Jean-

her to assess the damage.

The mistake has cost him there was anywhere in the "We have put so much energy world where you would choose and time into this project and whether to battle on.

Isabelle Autissier is the new overall leader, by just under six hours from French compatriot Marc Thiecelin, who beat her into Auckland. That was after Marie Vaur, will lift her out a collision with a whale tore off and take 12 hours inspecting her port rudder less than 200 miles from the finish. Italy's The race restarts on 5 Feb. Giovanni Soldini is just over 24

Finger said: "Tony's been given his chance in adverse cirthe end of the first half, Nigel cumstances and he has retotal to 19.

Derby Storm were beaten 81they did in last weekend's win 76 in their League encounter with London Towers, where the home team were without flu victims Malcolm Leak and

Reading are felled by Viking invaders

VIKINGS, WHO are the Danish National side and the current European bronze medallists, yesterday won the DTZ Invitation tournament at Kidderminster when they defeated the English champions, Reading, 10-8 in an exciting game of contrasting styles.

Reading, adapting their outopened the scoring through Jon Slay, afterwards named player of the tournament. in the sixth minute. A minute later Scott Ashdown put them further ahead.

Three goals inside two minutes from Peter Ulrich then put the Danes in the lead, which they never surrendered. With their patient build-ups, quick breaks and clinical finishing they always appeared to be in control as Ulrich took his tally to four, and his tournament

But Reading never gave up, Mark Pearn collecting a hattrick to keep the crowd on the edge of their seats

The weekend's exercise for Reading, for whom their captain Jon Wyatt and Ben Barnes.

HOCKEY BY BILL COLWILL

along with goalkeeper Simon Mason, were impressive at the back, will stand them in good stead wheu they start the defence of their national title.

Reading's path to the final door game to the indoor boards, had been uneventful until their semi-final against the local side Harborne. With never more than a goal hetween them until the last 10 minutes, Pearn won a penalty corner and converted it for his third goal of the game.

A couple of minutes later he set up Simon Briscoe for his first of two goals and Reading coasted home as fatigue set into the Harborne side.

Vikings' route had been smoother. The all-round strength of the squad, team cohesion, and sound basic indoor skills proved decisive. They accounted for Stourport 8-S in the quarter finals and then Firehrands 10-4 in their semi final.

Beeston beat Hull 5-3 to win the Plate final.

Becker's plea for slimmer ATP tour

TENNIS

THE FORMER Wimbledon champion Boris Becker has called for more matches hetween top players and fewer tournaments on the ATP tour and branded the system governing men's

"What happened at the end of last season must not happen again. That was damaging for tennis," Becker said in reference to the withdrawal of several top players before the ATP Championship final.

"All these withdrawals show that the ATP must slim down. Fewer tournaments would mean higher quality," he added, just a day after the world No 1, Pete Sampras, pulled out of the forthcoming Australian Open, complaining of exhaustion.

Becker also said that more matches hetween top-ranking players would help to lure back crowds. "You have to make sure there are more duels between top players. You can't wait until August before Pete Sampras plays a particular top-10 player. That indicates that the system is sick," he said.

Becker, who is in semi-retirement and has taken a joh with the German Tennis Federation, made his comments against the backdrop of a sharp drop in the sport's popularity in Germany. No worthy successors have emerged to either Becker or Steffi Graf, who has been struggling to come back from chronic injury problems.

The world No 2, Marcelo Rios, also described the men's circuit as "boring and unfair", and said the ATP's ranking system put top players at a disadvantage, "If you are at the top, the system punishes you all the more," Rios said. "That's why the top players are so worn out and boring."

The Chilean railed against attempts to repackage men's tennis and curb the kind of maverick behaviour with which he is associated. "It is schizophrenic, and is the tour's biggest problem, that they want characters but forbid any passion," he said. "I would promote, and not ban, passion."

Lindsay Davenport has said decision to withdraw from the Australian Open. Competing at the Hopman Cup mixed team tournament in Perth, she said: "I was really shocked when I heard about it, but the more you think about it, the more you understand it. Sometimes you just need to force yourself to take a break. He was clearly fatigued at the end of the year, and he deserves a hreak."

At the Hopman Cup, South Africa's Amanda Coetzer and Wayne Ferreira dashed the hopes of the home crowd yesterday when they disposed of their Australian opponents 2-1 in the opening session. Coetzer set off at a cracking

pace and overwhelmed the Belgrade-born Australian Jelena Dokic 6-1, 6-0, in just 47 minutes. Dokic, 15, is the world's topranked junior woman but has little experience against the sport's big names. Ferreira then secured the

tie, much to the disappointment of 7.500 fans crammed inside the Burswood Dome, by eclipsing the US Open finalist Mark Philippoussis 6-2, 6-3.

The organisers of the Kooyong Classic - the curtainraiser to the Australian Open have approached America's Michael Chang to fill the vacancy caused by the withdrawal of Sampras from hoth

London Leopards take a Finger licking

League Chief Executive, might take some convincing this week when Birmingham Bullets coach Mike Finger asks him to rubberstamp new signings for in a week with just five senior

Smith, financial guardian of the Bullets while the League find a new owner, arrived at the NEC on Saturday night in time to see Nigel Lloyd's lay-up seal a 77-66 victory over Greater

FOLKESTONE

HYPERION

12.40 Western Chief 1.10 Emerald Statement

1.40 Saleel 2.10 Rnckforce 2.40 Sandante

3.10 SCOBIE GIRL (nap) 3.40 Distant Storm

GOING: Chase course - Soft: Hurdle course - Heavy.

have been sent 339 miles. BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Topange (3.40.

GOING: Chase course - Soft: Hurdis course - Heavy.

Flight-hand, undulating course with a run-in of one furiong.

Course is 6m W of sown out A20. Westernhanger station adjoins course. ADMISSIDN: Cato & Textersells ETO; Pichic Park 24 per car plus 54 per occupant. U-66 free, CAR PARIC: Free. FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS.

LEADING TRAINERS: J Gifford 13-65 (20%), N Henderson 9-27 (393%), II Grissell 9-82 (145%), R Rowe 6-59 (102%).

9-27 (393%), II Grissell 9-82 (145%), R Rowe 6-59 (102%).

9-27 (393%), P Hide 9-68 (161%), R Dunwoody 8-44 (182%).

EAVOURTES: 100-340 (417%).

EAVOURTES: 100-340 (417%).

LONG DISTANCE RUNNERS: Emperor's Magic (210), Brancopath Belle (240), Than Tha! (310) and First in The Fleid (340) have been sent 339 miles.

12.40 DAN SWINDEN SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (G) £2,000 2m 6f 110yds

Minimum weight: 10st True handicap weight: Greenalde Chai 9st 12th.
BETTING: 7-4 The Phyling Doctor, 9-4 Western Chief, 9-2 Deuphin Blau.
6-1 Simply, 10-1 Repeat Offer, 20-1 Greenalde Chai

FORM VERDICT

A surprisingly incly little contest with some horses in quas-tionable form WESTERN CHIEF may not be a cast-loor stay-tonable from WESTERN CHIEF may not be a cast-loor stay-er, but he acts well on the ground and his stable has been in good form. The ground is a big worry for both The Flying Doe-tor and Dauphin Bleu.

London Leopards.

BASKETBALL

BY RICHARD TAYLOR

players, and puts them into the last eight of the League Trophy after they took control with a 15-0 run in the third quarter. Smith, an accountant, promised to be sympathetic but might wonder whether Fin-

"Mike makes the decision about players," said Smith. "I'll just look over the finances" After a troubled 10 days,

Finger was rightly ecstand:
"Tm really proud of the players. The win was Bullets' second Everyone is stepping up to take responsibility. They're fun Fun has not figured too

much in Finger's schedule since Christmas Eve, when Mark Considine and Chuck ger needs any more players.

1.10 WESTENHANGER NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) £4,000 added 3m 2f

3 004 MR CHELSEA (46) J Giftord B 11 4 PHote
4 0-35U2 ORPHAN SPA (27) G McCourt B 11 4 Fluebond

- 6 declared -

FORM VERDICT

SEE ENOUGH was a 150-1 shot for the Welsh National, in which

he finished a very respectable seventh, ahead of seasoned

handicappers Him Of Praise and Torduff Express. A reproduction

of that form would certainly be good enough for him to see

1.40 NORTHIAM NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) \$2,900 added 2m 6f 110yds

SELL TEX I No Govern 7 11 6. B Powell
PSEOR HARDY ERREZZE (842) D Gressel 8 11 6. B Fenten

- 8 declared -

BETTING: 1-2 Salesi, 5-2 Black Spring, 7-1 Hardy Breezs, 6-1 Polypho-

FORM VERDICT

SALEEL holds Polyphony and Cherry Pla on running here

less month and, while Polyphony should strip fitter for that first

run since June, he is unlikely to come on enough to be able to reverse placings with the battle-hardened Saleel.

ny, 14-1 Cherry Pie, 20-1 Ball Tex

Statement, 8-1 Franchy Malls, 12-1 Mr Chaisse

33/2P- EMERALD STATEMENT (387) (C) D Grissel 9 11 4..... B Fertion

RI- FRENCHY MALTA (FR) (274) M Roberts 6 TI 4 A Magaire

low this week but former play- average of six minutes to the er H L Coleman could he maximum returning.

Apart from a few seconds at Lloyd, Reggie Kirk, Clive Allen, sponded. Every time he scored Fabulous Flounoy and Tony his confidence grew." Simms played all 40 minutes, as

over Leicester. Simms, a former England international, nailed six three-

Guitar left the club. Mark pointers and revelled in having Martin Henlan.

2.10 LANGHORNE GARDEN HOTEL MAIDEN CHASE (CLASS E) £4,000 added 2m

BETTING: 2-1 See Enough, 7-2 Orphan Spa, 4-1 Riperios, 9-2 Enerald - 9 doctared -BETTING: 4-7 Rocktoros, 7-2 Mr Pipe Man, 6-1 Swan Street, 10-1 Em-peror's Magic, 16-1 Brassis HE, Demien's Choice, 29-1 others

FORM VERDICT A week contest that should fall to ROCKFORCE, who did

enough at Doncaster to suggest he can pay his way at this level. The trip is also right for him, whereas the likes of Mr Pipeman and Emperor's Magic look to need further.

2.40 LEVY BOARD NOVICE H'CAP HURDLE (F) £2,250 fillies & mares 2m 1f 110yda S-9733 GLACIAL MISSILE (S) P Bowen 5 TO P Hide CORSIS ROYAL RILLER (S) G Brond 8 T 3 P Hide CORSIS ROYAL RILLER (S) G Hodges 6 TI 3 M A Fitogerald P3-01F BRANCEPETH BELLE (s) (D) (SF) N Mason 8 TO TI R Guest 0-3CH INCLINUTION (S) MIS L Jewel 5 TO A Magnite CORSIS RICLER (S) G HARMAN (S) MIS L Jewel 5 TO A Magnite CORSIS RICLER (S) G HARMAN (S) MIS L Jewel 5 TO A Magnite CORSIS RICLER (S) G HARMAN (S) MIS L Jewel 5 TO A Magnite CORSIS RICLER (S) G HARMAN (S) MIS L Jewel 5 TO A Magnite CORSIS RICLER (S) G HARMAN (S) MIS L Jewel 5 TO A Magnite CORSIS RICLER (S) G HARMAN (S) MIS L Jewel 5 TO A MAGNITUM (S) MIS L JEWEL

-7 declared -BETTING: 11-4 Brancapeth Balls, 7-2 Golden LBy, 4-1 Sendants, 5-1 Glacial Missile, 7-1 Royal Rules, 8-1 Capacif, Inclination

FORM VERDICT

An open handicap in which it could be worth taking a chance with CAPSOFF, Gaoff Hubbard's mare was noted traveling DISTANT STORM can generally be relied on to run his race well for a long way at Towcester on her penultimate start and and his consistency is a plus against Topanga, who along with she can be expected to stay a lot further on this track. Brancepeth Beills, who is in good form, ω an obvious danger

3.10 TED LONG AMATEURS HANDICAP CHASE (F) £3,000 2m 5f

1 3P-03P TITAN THAI (37) (D) N Meson 10 11 10 ... Mr E Bablington (7 2 5-0562 JASON'S BOY (20) (D) J M Bradley 9 11 6 . Mr N Fehilly (7) 172-PP SCOBIE GERL (21) (D) J Mulins 9 11 1Mr D Turner (7) 4 P-5372 HELLO ME MAN (9) (D) 8 Desellyn 11 x0 11 _Miss E.J.Jones (7) 5 23-053 FERST INSTANCE (20) (D) D Greatel 9 To 6 Mr R Forriscal (6) 6 56-P03 CAN'T SAY (20) J M Bradley 7 102..... . Mr J Young (7) - 5 declared -

SETTING: 5-2 First Instance, 11-4 Jason's Boy, 7-2 Helio Me Man, 9-2 Scoble Girl, 8-1 Than Thai, 10-1 Can't Say

FORM VERDICT

Nothing can be totally discounted in a tricky amateur riders' handicap but conditions should suit TITAN THAI very well and he could outclass some pretty moderate opposition. The canger could come from First Instance whose jockey booking

3.40 ROBERTSBRIDGE H'CAP HURDLE (CLASS F) £2,250 added 2m 1f 110yds 1 33-23P DISTANT STORM (S) (D) B Develon 5 to D. O McPhod (5) B P45 JOHDAMAR (NZ) (20) D Morts 7 107..... B Powell 40/P-5 FIRST IN THE RELD (8) N Meson B 104 K Johnson

BETTING: 6-4 Distant Storm, 9-4 First in The Field, 7-2 Toponga, 5-1 Jo-FORM VERDICT

the European Cup to distract them and are poor value Chelsea, still in the Cup Wir ners' Cup and yet to go t Highbury and Villa Park, are similarly poor value. Arsena despite having to travel to Old Coral H William Hall L Ladbrokes, 5 Stanley, T Total

Aston Villa are the Premiership value IT IS time to believe in Aston

Villa who, leading the Premiership by two points with 39 after 20 games in the 38-match season, have an easy run-in to the end of term and look blinding each-way value (a quarter

the odds, places I, 2, 3) at 7-I. Strugglers Everton, Blackhurn, Coventry, Southampton, Nottingham Forest and Charlton all have yet to visit Villa Park and, while Villa must go to Arsenal and Manchester United late on, they also get to entertain Chelsea and Leeds.

Manchester United, Villa's higgest threat, have some so fixtures to come, but they hav

SPORTS BETTING

By IAN DAVIES

Trafford, have no European commitments and may pose more problems. Liverpool have plenty to do and Spurs also have a lot to do. Leeds are more plausible outsiders at 40-1.

Aston Villa and Manchester United are fancied here to end with 71 points apiece, with Arsenal and Chelsea both on 69, Leeds on 67, Liverpool on 64,

PREMIERSHIP				
C	н	L	s	
7-4	7-4	7-4	13-9	ī
13-8	6-4	7-4	13-8	7
7.	7-2	4-1	7.2	7
7-1	13-2	11-2	13-2	7
16-1	16-1	16-1	16-1	ī
25-1	40-1	40-1	28-1	2
66-1	20-1	80-1	80-7	8
	7-4 13-8 7-2 7-1 16-1 25-1	C H 7-4 7-4 13-8 6-4 7-2 7-2 7-1 13-2 16-1 16-1 25-1 48-1	C H L 7-4 7-4 7-4 13-8 6-4 7-4 7-2 7-2 4-7 7-1 13-2 11-2 16-1 16-1 16-1 25-1 46-1 46-1	C H L S 7-4 7-4 7-4 13-8 13-8 6-4 7-4 13-8 7-2 7-2 4-7 7-2 7-1 13-2 11-2 13-2 16-1 16-1 16-1 18-1 25-1 46-1 46-1 28-1

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Fifth Test: Warne overshadowed in his comeback by MacGill, but Australia in control as tourists give wickets away

England again fail to unravel spin

IT WAS the most anticipated return since Muhammad Ali's return to the ring. Shane Warne didn't have to use his fists but he was expected to punch his weight. But if the omens looked good with a wicket in his first over back, his figures were overshadowed by the sorcerer's apprentice, Stuart MacGill, who took 5 for 57, the best return of his Test career, as England

were bowled out for 220. The tale of two leg-spinners has been just one of the wonders that has so far graced this final Test at the SCG and it is a rare sight these days to see two of them bowling in tandem.

Of course, as entertainment goes, the first day, with Darren Gough's mesmerising hat-trick and the Waugh brothers's sublime batting, will not be bettered in a burry. Day two though, with England conceding a 102-run deficit on the first innings, served to underline just bow well teams have to play to gain an advantage over Australia.

Warne came on to bow! half an hour before lunch, after both MacGill and Colin Miller had tested the surface for spin. His first ball, to Mark Butcher. landed just where it should have and even had the temerity to spin. His second, pitched a little wider, was seized upon by Butcher, who dispatched it to the mid-wicket boundary.

The third, a dot ball, was looped a bit higher as was the fourth, which did the damage. Misjudging the length of it, Butcher played back and was

TAYLOR-MADE HISTORY

LEADING FIELDSMEN Australia's captain, Mark Taylor, equalled the former Australian captain Alian Border's world recard for the most Test catches by a fieldsman yesterday. He reached the milestone when he caught John Crawley on the sec-ond day of the fifth Test against England in Sydney

Mark Taylor (Aus) 156 catches (103 matches) Allan Border (Aus) 156 (156) Greg Chappell (Aus) 122 (88) Viv Richards (WI) 122 (121) lan Botham (Eng) 120 (102) Colin Cowdrey (Eng) 120 (115)

lbw, the ball turning just enough stroke and provide Warne instant success. By contrast, MacGill had to wait until his 13th

over before taking a wicket. Naturally the full house erupted and it was as if the blond bombshell, back in husiness once more against the Poms, had never been away. There was even a little salute to the massed ranks of the Barmy Army on the old Sydney hill, who'd been singing their repertoire of Warne songs since the start of the match.

In some ways though, the early success was like a false dawn, and Warne is not yet the article of old. For one thing there is not the fizzing turn and someone even suggested, rather cruelly, that along with smoking - he stands to earn A\$200,000 (£80,000) if he doesn't smoke until April - he must have given up spinning the ball as well. Variation, a key component of wrist spin, was also kent to a minimum, a sensible move until confidence levels return to normal, and pounds gained over the festive period are shed.

Australia do not tend to be nostalgic and Warne would not bave been picked unless the selectors felt he was able to do the job. Naturally the spin-friendly nature of the SCG pitch has fast-tracked his comeback but even in ideal circumstances

By DEREK PRINGLE in Sydney

Australia 322 & 13 for 0 England 220

you still have to get the ball in the right place - which is what he generally did, though the old Warne did it with added wizardry and sleight of hand.

For MacGill, the emergence from Warne's shadow has been gaining in momentum ever since Warne went under the surgeon's knife last March. If he lacks Warne's accuracy and dipping drift, he possesses a far better googly, which few appear able to read. Certainly Alex Tudor, bowled by one through the gate, wasn't able to, but there was also evidence that better players like Nasser Hussain were similarly nonplussed.

England did not bat well and once again gave away wickets to soft dismissals. Alec Stewart, mindful that the spinners were going to prove a handful, was guilty of impatience. In a plan conceived by Glenn McGrath, Stewart was drawn into driving at one well wide of off-stump, a misjudge-ment that ended with Warne pouching the edge at third slip.

It was a superb bit of preplanned cricket by McGrath who knows that Stewart likes an early feel of bat on ball. By bowling eight inches outside offstump. McGrath denied him that and it took Stewart until the sixth over to get off the mark. The trap set, and with Stewart itching to cream one out of the middle, all it took was the right carrot (a wider ball of fuller length) to spring it and give Mc-Grath his 200th Test wicket

Butcher, looking more solid than he has since Brisbane, played some fine strokes, while Hussain, mindful that he hasn't a big score to sbow for his hard work, played sketchily. However, after Butcher had made his misjudgement against Warne, Mark Ramprakash took up the cudgels with a superb cut for four off MacGill, a shot Hussain later matched when he drove Warne to the extra-cover boundary.

After lunch, the run rate, never a torrent, dried to a trickle. When the bowling is tight, you have to rotate the st taking ones. England are not good at this, and only 41 of their eventual 220 came from singles.

Nothing gnaws away at a batsman more than a static scoreboard. Australia's captain Mark Taylor knows this, which is why he rarely over-attacks, preferring instead to make batsmen work hard for their runs. That way the pressure builds. which is why Ramprakash, for the second time in successive Tests, was out to a half-hearted drive, a mistake that gave McGrath his second particularly meek dismissal and in spite of the improve-

AUSTRALIA - First traings 322 (M E Waugh 121, SR Waugh 96: D W HEadley 4-62).

43 min, 40 balls, 2 fours D W Headley c McGrath b MacGill. 22 min, 20 balls, 1 four



Australia's Shane Warne celebrates taking the wicket of Eugland's Mark Butcher, trapped lbw with the fourth ball of his comeback Test match in Sydney yesterday Allsport

ments he appears to have made on this tour, its tameness will keep a question mark hovering over Ramprakash's head. After all, you wouldn't find Steve Waugh getting out in

Likewise Graeme Hick, who out of all the enigmas, probably has the most variation, sometimes blowing hot, cold and lukewarm in successive innings. Like the Middlesex captain. Hick began jauntily. When Warne tried one of only a handful of flippers, Hick was quickly onto it, pulling it powerfully away for four. Two balls later he launched the leg-spinner for six, high over long-off, a majestic shot that tried to gain the psychological high ground.

It didn't work and like many wicket of the innings. It was a of England's batsmen did. Hick got a start but did not go on. When he eventually fell, cutting

Fail: 1-15 (Stewart), 2-56 (Butcher), 3-88 (Ramprakásh), 4-137 (Hick), 3-139 (Hussin), 4-137 (Hick), 3-139 (Hussin), 6-171 (Hegg), 7-204 (Judor), 8-213 (Gouyel), 9-213 (Gouyel), 8-213 (Gouyel), 8-213 (Gouyel), 8-213 (Gouyel), 8-213 (Gouyel), 8-213 (Gouyel), 8-23-4-5-2 (10-2-30-0, 13-4-15-2); macGill 20, 1-2-75-9 [w1], 7-0-18-0, 7-1-28-1, 6.1-1-14-); Martine 20-4-67-1 (nbl) (11-2-35-1, 3-1-5-0, 6-1-27-0). Progress: Second day: 50: 82 min, 19.5 overs, Landies 82-2 (Hussin 22, Romprakash 12) 30 overs, 100: 163 min, 40 overs, 156: 217 min, 52.1 overs, 18a: 161-5 (Crawley 16, Hegg 3) 60 overs, 200: 255 min, 73.2 overs, landings closed: 5.25pm, AUSTRALIA — Second Immings

SYDNEY SCOREBOARD

a short ball from MacGill to Warne at short extra-cover, a delivery he was left stretching for after giving himself too much room to play his shot, he'd made 23.

the crease. Earlier in the day Miller had troubled Hussain with his swingers and cutters. Now it was his off-spin that did the trick, though a sharp catch at silly point by Mark Waugh, his 100th in Tests, helped leave England 139 for 5.

It was at this juncture that John Crawley, picked here for his prowess against spin, began to swat and sweep his way towards the highest score of the innings. Crawley has had a wretched time of it this series and although he top-scored with 44, be never looked in command. Indeed, once be'd lost Warren Hegg, bowled through the gate by Miller, and Tudor, he too became a victim, as be edged a big turning leg-

break from MacGill to slip. The catch, taken by Taylor, was his 156th in Tests, a number that equals Allan Border's world record. After that MacGill, quickly removed Darren Gough and Dean Headley, the latter slogging, the former of the single. If a side is going to a questionable lbw decision.

Getting five wickets while Warne was at the other end would have been immensely Rosal (for 0, 27 min, 7 overs) 13

Bosaling: Headley 2-1-4-0; Gough:
3-1-3-0; Sach 2-0-6-0 (one spell each).
To bat: 1 Langer, M E Wagh, S R Waugh,
O S Letmann, II A Healy, S K Warre, S C G
MacGill, C R Miller, G D McGrath,
Umpalest: R 5 Dunne (NZ) and D B Hair satisfying for MacGill, who moved to Sydney from Western Australia, to pursue his trade. For the moment he is top dog, with the old champion happy Compiled by to King just to feed off his scraps.

Shortcomings exposed

managed to prise Hussain from the England batting. Five of the six specialist batsmen made a good start but none of them went on to reach even fifty and England surrendered a first innings lead of 102 to Australia which will almost certainly be decisive on a pitch which is increasingly taking spin.

Winning the toss made it highly likely that Australia will win the match, and England's batting on the second day confirmed this inescapable feeling.

It was a day's cricket which illustrated some of the serious shortcomings of England's current batting and which could only make one wonder what all those coaches and advisers are up to in the England dressing room. There is an extraordinary lack of common sense about some of the things that go on out in the middle which comes down to a lack of disci-

pline in England's cricket. To start with, England's batsmen appear not have been taught to realise the importance to build up a big total, it is extremely important that singles are played for and run. If hatsmen are only going to rely on the hig strokes, they will find that they are consistently short of runs. How often it is that hig strokes do not achieve their ob-

The scoreboard needs to be

NEW ZEALAND held a strong

grip on the third Test at Hamil-

ton yesterday despite a scintil-



HENRY BLOFELD IN SYDNEY

constantly kept moving by batsmen who are picking up singles to upset the bowlers and the fielders and, above all, to ro-

England, in this innings, were going to be tortured by Australia's three spinners and they had to do their best to help each other and to make it as easy for themselves as they

possibly could. When a batsman is struggling as some did against Stuart MacGill's leg spin and Colin Miller's off spin, it is crucial that be should remember the importance of getting himself off the strike and giving his partner the chance to help. His partner too, should be on the lookout for a quick single which would enable him to get down to the business end and relieve

for bowlers who are trying to wage a campaign against a particular batsman to find that be is constantly escaping to the other end.

When singles are continually being run, it often happens that a fielding side which is less than intense begins to look ragged. Overthrows and misfields begin to appear and these all help to lift the pressure off the batsmen.

The fielders, like the bowlers and the opposing captain, must be put under as much pressure as possible.

In England's first innings in this Test Match, this simply has not happened. During their entire innings, the England batsmen picked up only 41 singles and there was never any sign that they were deliberately playing for them.

The singles that were taken were run because they were there as a result of big shots that had failed or other strokes that had simply happened. They were never engineered by

If a side scores fifteen to twenty singles an hour, then over an innings of nearly six hours it will make a big difference to the total, and to the mental wellbeing of the batting side. The bowlers will likewise he disconcerted.

England were subjected to a

slower ball from Simon Doull

the Waugh twins on the first day of the match.

garts will

ewinter

From the first ball to the last. they were busily engaged on the business of playing for, and of running, singles. Not breakneck short singles

but sensible singles to third man or fine leg or into the gaps in front of the wicket. The Wanghs gave a wonderfully mature demonstration of how the playing for and the running of singles can benefit a hatting side.

There were 22 singles in Steve Waugh's 96 and 31 in Mark's 121, and altogether a total of 73 off the bat in the innings. By the time extras had heen counted the number would have been over 80, combined with all the attendant problems this will have caused England.

It is interesting too, that the Australian slips stand appreciably nearer the batsmen than their English counterparts and they also stand wider apart. I have lost count of the number of times one has said that if only the slips had been standing closer to the bat, catches would have carried

I do not remember the Australians missing many. The more one watches England play, the more amazed one has become at their lack of thought

Donald's quick burst turns tide Doull's slow ball raises tempo

FOR FOUR hours yesterday BY TONY COZIER the West Indies were identifiable as a genuine, competitive Test team, a rare occurrence on their ill-starred tour of South Africa. It took Allan Donald five overs to transform them back into their more familiar fast and compelling, removed guise and commit them to another desperate fight for Murray, with his fifth ball, his survival after two days of the hefty partner, Philo Wallace, in fourth Test.

Their bowlers, supported by slick fielding, responded to the Brian Lara, in his fifth. hamstring strain that ended Curtiy Ambrose's day in the field to seek treatment. like second over after hunch with the purpose and discipline they have rarely shown all series, to already been devastating. The convert South Africa's over- tenacious South Africans are night 273 for 2 to 406 for 8 not inclined to relax on their laudeclared, at tea.

match out of reach but it should have been motivation enough to prompt their unreliable batting to finally show its worth or an ideal surface. The optimism what seemed a straightforward

in Cape Town

South Africa 406 for 8 dec West Indies 89 for 4

was rapidly dispelled as Donald, the makeshift opener, Junior his fourth over and the altogether more significant captain,

Immediately, Donald left the Ambrose, on a damaged hamstring, but his own damage had reis and, in Donald's absence. That effectively put the the medium-pacer David Terbrugge snared Shivnarine Chanderpaul as well to leave the

West Indies 89 for 4 at the close. They are still 117 away from

looms as steep and imposing as nearby Table Mountain.

Donald's speed once more exposed the West Indies' batting problem that has dogged them since the break up of the great opening partnership of Gordon Greenidge and Desmond Haynes, But Murray, a wicketkeeper with no experience in the position prior to his promotion in the third Test, and the heavy-hitting, but leaden-footed, Wallace, caught off edges, were

small fish. It was Lara that set Donald and his team-mates off on a Zulu war dance that could have done nothing for his suspect hamstring. Jumping back to fend his fifth ball off his chest, Lara's right beel pressed against the leg-stump and dislodged the bails.

Čarl Hooper, with an elegant 53, and Daren Ganga, 16, batted through the final 50 minutes

follow-on target of 206 hut now in adding 55 hut a fourth successive Test defeat looms for the West Indies.

Throughout the first two sessions they had shown rare heart in restricting South Africa to 124 for 6 off 56.5 overs on the day. Ottis Gibson, the Barbadian fast bowler drafted in from the South African provincial scene following the injuries that sidelined Courtney Walsh and Franklyn Rose, finally ended the third-wicket partnership between the centurymakers, Jacques Kallis and Daryll Cullinan, that started on the previous day at 235.

Kallis was caught behind off a perfectly-pitched, late outswinger for 110. Cullinan went on to make the highest of his six Test bundreds, 168, before Nixon McLean bounced him out but he could not find the rhythm of the first day and spent three hours adding 46. Scoreboard, Digest, page 21

New Zealand 366 India 196-5

lating, unbeaten 93 from Rahul exposed the middle order to the new ball, and both were back in Dravid. India ended the second day at 196 for 5, 170 runs behind the pavilion by the time India had scored just 17. New Zealand's first innings, Sidhu was out to Chris

after the visitors' opening pair were found wanting and went Cairns, caught at the wicket cheaply in successive overs. after a cramped attempt at a square cut while Jadeja, who hit Navjot Sidhu and Ajay Jadeja, easy prey for the attack four boundaries, offered a so far in this series, again simple catch to mid-off from a in 19 overs. Once the partner-

daunt Dravid and Sachin Tendulkar, who compiled 67. Tendulkar attacked with customary ferocity but he did suffer a few anxious moments. Dravid scored busily but more judiciously, pouncing mainly on full-length balls or those short

outside off stump. By tea, the pair had added 62

ship reached 100, Tendulkar The grim situation did not launched into Craig McMillan and Nash, smacking three boundaries in two overs but he

fell soon after to Nash. Dravid, 39 at the time, added 54 in the remaining 80 minutes of play, but two more wickets fell. both to Doull's slower ball First. Saurav Ganguly was defeated and he then found the edge of Mohammad Azharuddin's bat Scoreboard, Digest, page 22

SATURDAY'S LOTTERY UPDATE. Draw date: 2/1/99. The winning numbers: 4, 31, 33, 38, 41, 46. Bonus number: 22, Total Sales: £55,821,685, Prize Fund: £25, 119,749 (45% of ticket sales)

CATEGORY	NO. OF WINNERS	AMOUNT FOR EACH WINNER	TOTAL EACH TICK
Mateh 6 (Jackpot)	1	£9.305.051	£9,305,051
Match 5 plus bonus ball	16	£178,943	£2,863,0aa
Match 5	508	£3,536	£1,789,216
Match 4	33.616	.£117	£3,933,072
Match 3	722,542	£10	£7,225,420
TOTALS	756,681		£25.115.847
ntal Sales including instants and Wednesday stal weak's contribution to Good Casess: £	Draw £97,253,786 26,200,600.	Breakago (przy O Camei	ra rounded down to nearest £1; £3 at Group pic Players must be 16 or

in the event of any discrepancy in the above, the data contained in Camelot central computer system shall prevail

Maybe, just maybe. THE NATIONAL LOTTERY

MREPORTS in

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Rankine

relishing

Arsenal

re-union

By Alan Nixon

in Larsson is the saviour for Celtic

IN THE end the gap stayed at 10 points but not for the want of trying. As the Premier League takes a three-week break the players of the two biggest clubs

signed off with a match to remember at Ibrox Park yesterday. There were four goals and numerous chances hut no winner, the result being one which will

suit Rangers more than Celtic. The situation before the game was a repeat of earlier in the season with Celtic trailing their rivals by 10 points. Celtic then had shown all the desire

The home side proved more alert from the start and with four minutes nn the clock Paul Lambert was forced to clear off the line from Lorenzo Amoruso's header at a corner Jonathan Gould, the Celtic goalkeeper.

reacted well five minutes later to push away a powerful Rod Wallace shot which ended a sweeping three-man move and Rangers continued to dominate.

With Rangers closing down quickly, the Celtic midfield had little space in which to operate but Vidar Riseth fnund himself in good position in the 12th minute although he screwed his vollev wide.

That was a temporary reprieve for the Celtic defence with Rangers' next chance falling to Wallace whose powerful run gave him a sight at goal but his shot finished six yards wide.

Hearts will welcome the winter break

first winter break, some clubs will welcome the rest more than others, writes David

Kilmarnock, who beat Motherwell 2-1 on Friday, continue to defy logic with a sustained run in the Premier League, which has seen them claim second place behind Rangers. With their recent run of form Bobby Williamson, Killie's manager, would no doubt prefer to continue playing,

However, the break must be good news for Hearts. The Edinburgh club were in the same position as Kilmarnock last season before their League challenge faded, although they recovered sufficiently to win the Scottish Cup. But this season's collapse has left them two points ahead of Dundee United, the second bottom club, with Saturday's 0-0 draw against Dunfermline doing little to ease the home side.

ALLIED DUNBAR

PREMIERSHIP ONE

PREMIERSHIP TWO

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PW D L F APts
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Worcester 1412 0 2 341 186 22
Rotherbam 13 9 0 4 321 161 18
LWelsh 14 9 0 5 325 314 18
Waterioo 14 9 0 5 267 277 18
Loeds 14 8 0 6 334 194 16
Coventry 14 8 0 6 358 296 16
Emeter 14 7 1 6 304 323 15
Ragby 14 7 0 7 223 254 14
Orrell 14 5 0 8 266 209 12
Moseley 14 5 0 9 275 351 10
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AS SCOTTISH football takes its the gloom. The three-week break, however, should allow eight first-team players the chance to return to fitness, and the draw at least ended a four-game run of defeats.

Dunfermline are rooted at the bottom, having drawn 12 of their 22 games, but with just two victories the problems for Bert Paton, their manager, are obvious. Now he will have time to work out ways of increasing his side's goal-scoring potential.

Paul Hegarty's hopes of becoming Aberdeen's next manager suffered a severe dent with his side's 4-1 defeat at the hands of St Johnstone. He watched his players succumb to their first loss in his five games in caretaker charge.

The Dundee derby produced a welcome win for United, who moved to within a point of their city rivals thanks to a 3-1 success in a game dominated by

RUGBY UNION RESULTS

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LEAGUE ONE

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Hinckley 11 Stourbridge 40 Rendat 37 Winnington Pis. 3 Lichfield 20 Aspatria 27 Prestor G 30 Namenton 15 Sandal 19 New Brighton 12 Sodgley Park 35 Shoffield 6 Whitchurch 18 Waisel 33

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Borovets 100% Excellent conditions50 60 25.12 OC

Bridgwater 14 Ester 14 Ester 14 Ester 15 Ester 16 Ester 1

dramatic fashion when first a deep cross from Stephane Mahe came back off the bar and then Alan Stubbs put them ahead. A free-kick fell to Lubomir Moravcik, who laid the ball into the path of the defender, whose curling sbnt found the far corner of the net.

Celtic's joy lasted for just six minutes. Neil McCann sent in a high ball which found the head of the recalled striker Gabriel Amato, whose powerful header gave Gnuld on chance.

Both sides went for a victory that would he all important with the game swinging from end-to-end. Larsson uncharacteristically hlasted the ball over from six yards two minutes after the re-start and in the 50th minute his low glide brought out a good save from Stefan Klos.

In the 55th minute Celtic's penalty claims were hrushed aside when Mahe went down in the penalty area after a challenge by Andrei Kanchelskis. Within three minutes Rangers ere ahead.

Gabriel Amato showed strength and a determination to force his way past three challenges at the by-line and when the ball came into the six-yard box, Wallace hooked it in. Celtic replied in the 66th

minute. Moravcik sent a shot off the underside of the bar and from the rebound Larsson headed home. Celtic almost took the lead again in the 72nd minute when

Stubbs headed against the

cross bar from a corner. Goales Stubbs (38) 0-1; Amaro (45) 1-1; Wallace (58) 2-1; Larsson (66) 2-2
Rangers (4-4-2; Klos; Porrini, Hendry, Amoriso, Vikhnar, Kanchelskis (Abertz, 60), 8 Ferguson, Van Bronckhorst, McCann (Johansson, 73); Amaro, Wallace, Salussitation and esselt Wilson, Miler, Brown (gk), Cellic (4-4-2); Gould; Mjalby, Stubbs, Boyd, Mahé; Riseth, McNamara, Lambert, O'Donnell; Moravolik, Larsson, Sabastitustes nee assed: Brastbelsk, Annoni, McBride, Burchill, Walmer (gk), Walmer (gk), Walmer (gk), Walmer (gk), Pares not used: Brassbake, Burchill, Warner (gk).

Referee: J McCluskey (Stewarton), Bookings: Rangers: Portin, Hendry, Ferguson, Van Bronchvorst, Celdic: Mahe, Stubbs, Lambert. och: Van Bronckhorst

FIRST DIVISION

Postponed: Cross Keys v Pontypool: South Wales Police v Blackwood; UWIC

v Llandovery.

V Llandovery.

V Llandovery.

Mountain Ash 14: Tenby Utd 67

Llantrisant 8; Ystradgynlais 52 5; Peter's

14. (All other matches postponed).

SWALEC CUP



Sergin Porrini, of Rangers, gets to grips with Celtic's Stephane Mahé (left) during yesterday's derby Allsport

Wiseman faces exit today

THE STUBBORN show of defiance that has been displayed by the Football Association's chairman, Keith Wiseman, is expected to be brought to an end when the game's ruling council meets today.

Wiseman's future has been in jeopardy ever since the FA's executive committee passed a vote of no confidence in him over the cash-for-votes scandal which sparked the resignation of the chief executive, Graham Kelly. There have been reports that the entire 10-man executive will resign if Wiseman

holds on to power. The 91-member full FA council will give its verdict today, and it seems virtually certain that Wiseman will be shown the door. If so, some high-profile hats will immediately be tossed

into the ring. The Ipswich Town chairman

stituents who voted me into of-

fice in the first place." The outgoing owner of Tran-David Sheepshanks, the Arsenal director David Dein, and mere Rovers, Peter Johnson, Wiseman's deputy, Geoff this weekend shed light on why Thompson, are all said to be in he had delayed the sale of his the running, although, even if interest in the club. Wiseman is removed today, his

Johnson, who is also selling his majority shares in Everton, was originally given a New Year's Eve deadline by the Football and Premier League to sell his share in Tranmere, radical change is on the way. but this was extended.

That could include the merging A statement to Prenton Park of the roles of chairman and fans before Saturday's thirdchief executive, with one man round FA Cup tie against Ipswich Town read: "Mr [Frank] Wiseman has vowed to fight Corfe [Tranmere's chairman] commenced legal proceedings his corner. He said: "I have already been tried twice as such, in which he claimed rights to once by the executive commitcertain interests in the club and sought to disrupt and delay tee and once by the media, but it has always been my intentioo the sale process.

dered to sell his interests in Rovers by both the Football and Premier Leagues before he "Mr Corfe's claims were stepped down as Everton's strongly disputed and two chairman last year.

nightmare will not come back to haunt him or proud Preston North End - and shatter their hopes of a giant-killing act in tonight's FA Cup third-round tie at Deepdale.

MARK RANKINE is hoping his Arsenal

The midfield dynamo has never faced the might of the Gunners at competitive level, but his experience of taking them on in the FA Youth Cup final was enough. A decade ago Rankine was one of the stars of the Doncaster Rovers team which battled all the way through to the final of the prestige event to play Arsenal

But their dreams of glory were dashed inside just 45 minutes - and Rankine otill shudders at the memory of that nightmare thrashing. He said: "It was a really big night, hut we were just overawed by the occasion. I think Kevin Campbell scored four inside half an hour. We just couldn't handle it.

"If we hadn't blown up. we wnuld bave dnne ourselves justice. We lost the home leg 5-0 but drew down there 1-1, so we were nn mugs. I just bope our lads at Preston don't freeze like that. We are not afraid - but you can never tell how people will react nn the night."

Two Preston hapefuls wanting to make a name for themselves already have something going for them - Michael Jackson and Paul McKenna

The centre-half Jackson has come up the hard way, not just for living with the gags about his namesake. He had to overcome two major back nperations as a child. The midfielder McKenna is the local lad of the side - his parents do the catering at the

that Mr Cnrfe's legal action bas been withdrawn, the thorclub's training ground.

Jackson, who started at ough process can proceed un-Crewe before joining Preston. hindered. Discussions are taking place with three intersaid: "I have not watched Arested parties and it is hoped senal on TV if I can help it, they would scare me. But every that a new owner will take over time one of them gets injured Mr Johnson's interest early in I have been cheering."

McKenna is steeped in the history of the club, after signing up as a teenager when bigger clubs were keen on him. He said: "This tie is all everyone wants to talk about."

Sed

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WORLDCOVER

AMERICAN FOOTBALL The visiting Atlzona Cardinals shocked the Dallas Cowboys 20-7 in the NFC wild card game on Saturday to win their first play-off game since 1947. The Cowboys had won nine in a row at home and lost only once in their past 17 meetings with Arizona who now face the Minnesota Vikings. In the AFC wild card gam the Miami Dolphins hung on for 24-17 win against the Buffalo Bills. NFL: AFC wild card game: Miami 24 Bulfato 17, NFC wild card game: Dates

GROUP I ATHLETICS

IMAF WITRLD CROSS CHALLENGE
SERIES (Durkam) Mea (9km): 1 M
Wolde (Eth) 27min 02sec: 2 T Nyariki
(Ken) 27:04: 3 J Brown (168) 27:05: A J
Kosgel (Ken) 27:21: 5 M Mourhik (5e)
27:42: 6 P Olmodo (Mea) 27:47: 7 K Sich
(Mor) 27:47: 6 J Kloby (Ken) 27:50: 9 A
Pearson (GB) 27:57: 10 J Regalo (Por)
28:12. Standings: 1 Nyariki 39ts: 2
Mourhik 30: 3 Ölmedo 26: A = R Limo
(Ken). Wolde 25: Micanem (6.5km): 1 G
Warm (Etn) 21:58: 2 J Maranga (Ken)
22:11: 3 A Sandeil (Fin) 22:17: 4 P Radcitife (GB) 22:25: 5 N Mago (Ken) 22:32:
6 N Rocha (Mea) 22:51: 7 M Luiss Larraga (Sp) 22:55: 8 A Waterlow (GB) 23:05:
9 V McPherson (GB) 23:07: 10 B Bitzne-Ducret (Fr) 23:12: Standings: 1 Warm
Sopts: 2 Sandeil 41: 3 Maranga 36: 4
Radcille 34: 5 Rocha 27. FIRST DIVISION Postponed: Shannon v Buccaneers. SECONID brvzSiON: DLSP 13 Dungannon 20: Derry 10 UCC 15; Greystones 11 Dolphin 5; Matone 22 Skerries 6: Old Crescent 23 Old Wesley 0; Portadown 30 Baltynahinch 23: Sunday's Well 6 Bective Rovers S. Postponed; Wanderers v Old Belvedere.

TENNENT'S VELVET BASKETBALL TRI-SERIES BASKE LEAGUE London Towers
81 Derby 76: Newcaste 71 Sheffield 84:
Thames Valley 120 Chester 102, (Sar)
Sheffield 108 Thames Valley 92.
UNI-BALL TROPHY Group A: Mancheste 79 Million Keynes 61: Worthing
77 Lelester 79 Group B: (Saz) Birmingham 77 Greater London 66 (Nestenday) Greater London 89 Edinburgh 61. BANK OF SCOTLAND BORDER LEAGUE

BOWLS

WORLD INDOOR CHAMPIONISHIPS

[Posters Leisure Resort, Great

farmouth): Doubles, first round draws

I Alicock and M King (Eng) v Gavin and
Greame Campbell (Sco); G Robertson and
R Corsle (Sco) v P Black and N Ghoson (Inf):
G Smith gand A Thomson (Eng) v G Dennis
and M Roberts (Wal); J Prite and S Rees

[Wal) v A Springed and G Grace (Eng): O
Gourlay (Sco) and M McMahon (Aus) v L
Gliett and R Neoman (Eng); R Brassey (NQ)
and S Gason (Aus) vi Schabach and I Sylor

[Aus): H Duit and P Foster (Sco) v J
Greensjade and R Wesle (Wal); G Harlow
and W Richards (Eng) v N Booth (Inf) and
N Burkett (SA).

CRICKET

only to put the full facts before

the FA council - the con-

BY DAMIAN SPELLMAN

replacement is unlikely to take

nothing wrong but, whatever

happens, it seems certain that

carrying out the dual role.

Wiseman insists he has done

office before March.

C L Hooper not out....... D Ganga not out...... D Ganga not out 16
Extras (Rb2) 2
Total (for 4) 89
Fad: 1-1 2-10 3-14 4-34
To bat: IR O Jacobs, O O Gibson, N A M
McLean, M Dillion, C E L Ambrose.
Bowrling: Donald 5-0-13-3, Pollock
10-6-16-0, Terbruege 7-3-13-1, Kallis
6-2-21-0, Adams 5-0-24-0.
Unaptres: II 1. Orchard (SA) and 5
Venhateraghavin (Ind).

THURD TEST (Haroliton) NEW ZEALAND - First be (Overnight: 283 lar 5)

1A C Parore c Sub b Prasad

P J Wiserman C Ganguly b Robin Singh 1

C I Cairrs b Robin Singh 1

J Nash not out 1

1 Uetror b Srinath 2

5 B Doull c Kumble b Srinath 2

8 Doull c Kumble b 5rinarh tras (b5. lb19, nb14, w2)

SPORTING DIGEST Bowting: Doubl 15-6-29-2; Carris 10-3-54-2(nb1, w4); Nash 16-6-35-1; Vettori 13-2-63-0; McMillan 2-0-13-0. Limpfres: 11 8 Cowle (NZ) and R E Koertzen (SA).

ONE-DAY MATCH (Brisbane): Oversland Academy of Sport v England XI.
Match abandoned without a ball being bowled

Australia A bowled out Sri Lanka inside 25 overs and needed just 18.1 overs batting 10 beat the world champions in Perth yesterday. The one-day game was over so quickly one-day game was over so quickly that a second game took place.

TOUR MATCH: One-day (Perth): Sn Lanks 89)5 Lee 4-11; S-1 overs); Australia A 92 for 2 | 18 overs). Australia A woo by eight wickets.

SHEFFIELD SHIELD (tabled day of four): Tasmania 370 (D.J Marsh 77.) Cos-77. 5 Young 76; M Inness 4-89); Victoria 36 lor 6)M T G Elliott 134, 5 A J Craig 100no).

SKOL PDC WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP [Circus Tavern, Purfleet] Semi-ficals: P Manley (Eng) bt 5 Burgess [Eng] 5-4: P Taylor (Eng) bt A Warmer [Eng] 5-3.

[Eng) 5-3.

EMBRASSY WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP
(Lakeside Country Club, Frimley
Green, Surrey) First round: I. Wallace
(Sco) bt O Cunningham (Sco) 3-0; R
Barneveid (Neth) bt 5 Pattrey (Wat)
3-0; M James (Wal) bt 5 Pattrey (Wat)
3-2; 5 Duke (Aus) bt 5 Beaton (Eng) 3-0;
7 Hankey (Eng) bt R Carter (U5) 3-1; C
Mason (Eng) bt R Davies (Wal) 3-1; M
Adams (Eng) bt R Davies (Wal) 3-1; K
G Hunt (Aus) bt A Jenkins (Eng) 3-1; K
Painter (Eng) bt R Widdows (Eng) 3-0.

HOCKEY

NOCKEY
DTZ INVITATION TOURNAMENT
(Cocks Moors Woods, Birmingham)
Pool A: Barlord Tigers 4 Oton & West
Warwick 6; Barlord Tigers 9 Firebrands
8: Otton & Waterwick 6 Brooklands 10:
Brooklands 18 Barlord Tigers 10: Firebrands 8 Otton & Waterwick 3: Brookkinds 7 Riebrands 11. Pool B: Vikings
15 Harborne 3: Beeston 16 Northop Hall
3: Vikings 8 Beeston 16 Northop Hall
3: Vikings 19 Northop Hall 0. [WyreForeat Gladeas, Ridderminster] Pool
C: Combined Services 3 Stourport 13:
Stourport 6 Leek 7: Combined Services
5 Swansea 5: Swansea 3: Sourport 7:
Leek 11 Combined Services 3: Swansea
5 Leek 7. Pool Dr Reading 9 Ridderminster 1: Dunton 3 Hull 1; Reading 8
Dunton 4; Kidderminster 2 Hull 8;
Kidderminster 9 Ounton 10; Hull 4

the New Year."

Reading 9. Onarter-Reals: Firebrands 10 Dunton 5; Srourport 5 Vikings 8; Leck 1 Harborne 10: Reading 10 Barford Tigers 2. Semi-Finals: Firebrands 4 Vikings 10; Reading 9 Harborne 4. 3rd-4th place: Harborne 6 Firebrands 9. Finals: Vikings 10 Reading 8. WOMEN'S INDOOR LEAGUE First Division (East Griestead); (Sat) Ealing 4 Bradford 7; Sutton Coldheid 0 Itid Loughtonians 2; Woking 2 Wimbledon 4; Earnouth 1 Canterbury 11; Lelecster 2 Ealing 4; Bradford 6 Sutton Coldfield 6: Itid Loughtonians 7 Woking 3; Wimbledon 5 Euroouth 2; Canterbury 10 Lelecster 1. [Vesteerday] Sutton Coldfield 4: Woking 5; Earnouth 2: Lelecster 3: Bradford 5 Itid Loughtonians 5; Wimbledon 2 Canterbury 5; Ealing 5 Sutton Coldfield 3; Woking 2 Exmouth 4; Lelecster 10 Old Loughtonians 3 Wimbledon 2; Canterbury 4 Ealing 5.

weeks ago the legal action was

withdrawn. In view of com-

ments made by Mr Corfe in a re-

cent press statement, Mr

Johnson wishes to confirm that

no payment has been or will be

made to Mr Corfe in this con-

nection and that Mr Corfe has

no continuing involvement with,

or financial interest in, the club."

The statement added: "Now

Johnson was previously or-

ICE HOCKEY

NHL: (Fri) Ditawa 4 Washington 3; 5t Louis 6 Nashville 5; Anaheim 7 Bulfalo 2: Dallas 2 Phoenix 1 [ot]; Florida 3 Carolina 3 [ot]. (Sart) Detroit 5 Chicago 2; NY Islanders 3 San Jose 4 (oi): Carolina 4 Nashville 1; Boston 2 Anaheim 1; Ottawa 6 New Jersey 0; Toronto 2 Washington 5; Buffalo 7 Calgary 1; Florida 2 Pittsburgh 4: 5t Louis 0 NY Rangers 1: Varkouver 1 Montreal 2; Los Angeles 4 Colorado 2.

SEKONDA SUPERLEAGUE: Bracknell 3 London 9. Nottingham 4 Shelfield 3.

Germany's Jutta Kleinschmidt, the

first woman to win a stage in the Dakar Rally two years ago, teached a fresh peak yesterday when she took the overall lead after the third a fresh peak yesterday When she took the overall lead after the third stage between Agadir and Tan Tan. DARAR RALLY Second stage (654km, Rabas to Agadir, Mor) 100km timed section; Cars: 1 J-P Fontenay [Fr] Mitsubish I hr 13min 22 sec. 2 K 5 hinozuka Jiapan) Mitsubishi + 1min 49 sec. 3 M Prieto [5p] Mitsubishi + 3:05: 5 J M Servia (5p) Schlesser 3:08. Motor-cycles: 1 H Kinigadner (Aut) KTM 1hr 11mm 22 sec. 2 J Roma (5p) KTM + 165 ecs. 3 F Fasola (ii) KTM + 36: 4 R Sainct [Fr] 8MW + 1min 16 sec. 5 J Mayer [Ger] KTM + 1:53. Third stage [5f Okm, Agadir to Tan Tan]: 230km timed section: Cars: 1 J Kienschnildt (Ger] Mitsubishi 2hr 20min 26 sec. 2 H Masuoka (Japan) Mitsubishi + 2:18: 3 J-L Schlesser (Fr) Schlesser + 4:07; 4 M Prieto (5p) Mitsubishi + 7:47: 55 Serva [5p) Nissan +8:40. Motorcycles: 1 J Roma (5p) KTM 2hr 14min 7 sec. 2 H Kinigadner (Aut) KTM + 1:03: 3 A Cox (SA)

KTM + 3:29: 4 G Sala (II) KTM +6:59: S J Fink (Aut) KTM +7:18. Car standings: 1 F Kleinschmidt 31: 43min 17:ec: 2 Masuoka +1:55: 3 Schlesser +6:00: 4 Prieto +7:07: 5 J-P Foncenay (So) +8:21. Motorcycle standings: 1 Roma 3ni 31min 16:sec: 2 Kinigadner +1:25, 3 Cox +6:07:sec: 4 Sala +9:34: 5 R Sainct IFI) +9:54.

RUGBY LEAGUE SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP Second round: Egremont 21 Haydock 0: Featherstone Lons 37 Ovenden 18. PRIENDLY MATCH: Hull 24 Chico Jack-son Select 30; Hunslet 22 Bramley 10.

SKIING
ALPINE WORLD CUP (Martbor,
Sloven) Women's Super-G: 1 H Gerg
(Ger) 1min 30.17sec; 2 M Ert | Ger)
1:30.30; 3 M Durfmeister (Aur)
1:30.46, Staudings: 1 A Meissnitzer
| Aut) 269pts, 2 M Ert | Ger) 220; 3 H
| Gerg | Ger) 200; 4 P Wiberg | Swe) 170;
5 C Mitterwaliner | Aut) 150, Women's
glant slatom: 1 A Wachter (Aut) 2min
15.66sec (first leg 1:08.29, second leg
1:07.37; 2 S Nef | Swe) 2:16.57
| 1:08.16, 1:08.41; 3 A Meissnitzer
| Aut) 2:16.57
| 1:08.16, 1:08.34, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1:08.31, 1

SK1 JUMPING

FOUR HILLS (Issusbruck, Aug): 1 N Kasa (Japan) 232. Sobts (jumps of 109.50 and 108.00 metues): 2 J Ahonen (Fin) 226.10 (108.50/108.50); 3 H Miyahira JJapan) 225.40 (112.00/103.50): 5 5 Horngscher (Au) 218.50 (117.50) 4 M Harada (Japan) 225.40 (112.00/103.50): 5 5 Horngscher (Au) 218.50 (117.50) 97.50]. 8 = K 8 renden (No.) 216.10 (106.00/106.00), M Hoellwarth (Aur) 216.10 (106.00/106.00) 8 K Voshioka (Japan) 213.80 (112.00/ 99.00): 9 M Laitren (Fin) 212.60 (106.50/101.00). Standings after three rounds: 1 Kasal 705.1 pts; 2 Ahonen 704.7; 3 M Schmitt (Ger) 692.8: 4 A Goldberger (Aur) 672.2: 0 Mlyahira 665.7: 6 Harada 657.7: 7 K Funalu (Japan) 657.3: B Voshioka 657.2; 9 Horngacher 650.6: 10 Thoma 637.6. SK1 JUMPING

HOPMAN CUP MIXED TEAMS TOUR-MAMENT (Perth, Aus): (SA names first): A Coetzer bt J Dokle 6-1 6-0; W Ferreira bt M Philippoussis 6-2 6-3; Ferreira and

THIS WEEK'S FXTURES

POOTBALL: See panel, page 23. BOWLS: World Indoor Crampionships (or

Potters Leisure Resort, Great Yarmouth; to DARTS: Embassy World Championship (ol Lakeside Country Cub., Frimley Green:

to 10 fanuary).

SNOOKER: Qualifying for Regal Scottish.
British Open & World Championship for Nor-breck Castle Hotel, Blockpool; to 21 fan-RACING (National Hunt unless stated): SOUTHWELL (All Weather Flat) (Pirst race 1.00: Folkestone (12.40); Newbury (12.50).

7 1155 DAY
FOOTBALL (7.43 tabless stated): Auto
Windcreens Saleki Northern section
second reamd: Darlington v Chesterfield:
Hellfax v York; Hull v Wrednam (7.30); Lincoln City v Mansfeld; Rochole v Scole;
Wigen v Scarborough. Southern section
second reamd: Boumemouth v Peterborough: Brighton v Millmail; Cambridge Und
v Northampton; Exetter v Southend; Luton
v Walsell; Swansca v Gillingham; Icrquay v
fulfiam (7.15); Wycombe v Breniford
Ramens Scottish Cup second-roand replay: Staring Adden v Montrose (7.30).
RVGRY UNITIN: Authad Outbar Pre-RUGBY UNITN: Allied Outbar Pre-mierable One: Lordon Scottish v Glouces-ter (7,30); Newcastle v Bedford (7,30);

RACING: LINGFIELD (All Weather Flat) (1.15); Newton Abbot (1.30).

WEDNESDAY FOOTBALL (7.30): Auto Wind Shield Northern section second round: Stunthorpe v Carlisle. Terments Scottish Cap second-round replay: Chyde v Spartens, Scottish League Third Divi-sion: Ilumbarton v Berwick Rangers. RUGEY UNION: Alled Dunbar Premiership One: Wasps v Saracens (7.30). Cheitenham and Gioucester Cup first (7.45).

RACING: Musselburgh (12.40); Wolver-hampton (All Weather Flat) (1.30); Ling-field (12.50). THURSDAY RACING: Catterick (12.30): Market Rasen (12.40): LINGFIELD [All Weather Flat) (12.50).

FRIDAY FOOTBALL: Nationwide Footba League First Division: Tranmere v Wolves (7.45). RUGBY LINION: Weish Challenge To phy Pool A: Caerphilly v Canada (7.0). Pool B: 8 ridgend v Romania (7.0). RACING: Ludlow (1.0); SOUTHWELL (All Weather Flat) (1.10); Towcester (12.50). SATURDAY

SATURDAY

FOOTBALL [3.0 unless stated]: FA
Carling Premiership Arsena's Liverpool.

Blackburn's Leeds; Coventry's Nottingham
Forest; Eveston's Leichter; Middlesbruigh
y Aston VRa; Newsatsle's Cheisea: Sheffield
Wednesday's Tottenham; Southampton's
Charlton: Wimbledon's Derby, Nationaide
Football League First Division: BirmIngham's Port Vale: Creise's Norwich; Huddershield vBury; Ipowich's Grimsty, Oxford
Urd v Bristol City: Queen's Park Rangers's
Sunderland; Stockport v Bradford: Swindon's
Sheffield Urd; Watford's Portsmouth; West Southers of Secretary Sension of West Bromwich v Barnsley, Second Dististion: Biaclopool v Manchester City (12.0); Bristoff Rovers v Burnley, Chestorfield v Colonester: Futham v Macclesfield: Lincoln City v Bournerouth; Linton v Wycomber, Milwall v Wigart; Notes County v Olcham; Reading v Wrecham; Stoke v Northampton; Walsail v Gliffigham; York v Preston Third Dististor: Barnet v Darlington: Brighton v Carliste; Cambridge Utd v Broquay; Cardiff v Hartlepool; Exerer v Swansea; Hallav v Peerstorough; Hull v Rotherham; Leyton Orient v Chester; Mansfield v Brentford; Rochale v Phymouth Argyle; Scundrope v Strewsbury; Southend v Scarborough. Football Conference: Barnow v Rushden & Diamonds; Doncaster Rovers v Chelterham; Fornborough v Stevenage; Her-ford v Hechesford; Mettering v Moreambe; Kidderminster v Leek; Kingstonian v Hayes; Morthauft v Bones Sewhere; V Morall v Sheffield Utd; Watford v Portsmouth; West

Airdine v Morton: Clydebank v Ayr: Raith v Falkirk; St Mirren v Hibernian; Stranizer v Hamilton. Second Division: Inverness Caledonian Thisle v Arbroath; Partick Thistle v Alloa. Thind Division: East Striling v Dumbarton; Montrose v Albion. Tepments Scottish Cup second round: Queen of the South v Ross County; Queen's Park v Clachnacuckin. Second-round replayer. East Fife v Forfar ().15): Stenhousemuir v Whitehill Wellare: Brechin City v Keith.

Weilare Brechn City V Neith.

RUGBy UnitON [3.0 unless stateed]: Europeum Cup semi-final: Colomiers v Perpgram [1.45]: Useer v Scade Français [1.0).

Recley's Bitzer Cup Fourth round:

Gloucester v Worcester: Harlequins v Esher: Gloucester v Worcester; Harlequins v Esher; Lekester v Barking; Moseleyv Lydney, New-castle v Bath (2.0); Nortingham v Eweter; Rotherham v Leeds (2.15); Sale v Northampton; Sedgiey Park v Wesos (2.15); Waterloo v Orrell (2.15); Jeurson Masional Laugue Two North: Appario v Whitchurch (2.30); Nuneation v New Brighton (2.30); Stourordge v Preston Grasshoppers (2.30); Walsall v Hinckley (2.30); Winnington Park v Lichfield (2.30); Two South: Chettenham v Norwich (2.30); North Walsham v Mecropolitan Police (2.15); Plymouth v Tabard (2.30); Weston-super-Mare v Havant. Welsh Chailenge Trophy Pool A: Aberdwon v Gorga (2.30), Pool IE: Lianelli v Blue Bulls (2.30); Welsh Nacional League First Dhésion (2.30); Aberdilery v Tordu; Blackmood v Rumney, Dumon v Bonymaen; Llandovery v South Wales Police; Maesteg v Newbridge; Pontypool v UWK; Tredegar v Cross Keys; Treorchy v Merthyr. Tennents Welves Cup fifth round (1.30); Glosgow

selburgh: Langholm v Gala; Preston Lodge v Peebles; Stewartry v Kirkcaldy, Watsoni-ans v Meirose. Teanents Velyet Bowi Gree ars v Metrose. Teanwars Webpet Blown first round (1.30): Hamilton Acads v White-craigs. Second round (1.30): Cumbernauld v Dumfries: Edinburgh Unitv Paistey. For-nester FP o Durs; Highland v Garnock; Hill-hoots v Moray; RAF Kinloss v Strathendrick; roots v Moray: RAF Kintoss v Strathendrick: Wigtownshire v Corstorphine. Teaseness Velvet Shield second round (1,30): Annan v Ross High: Berwick v Lenzie: Glasgow Southern v Gordonians; Irvne v Hawnot Linden: Jed-Forèst v Dunfermiline; Selkirk v Howe of Frie: St Boswells v Gierroches; String County v Stewart's Mehale Pt Ramonds Vietnet Premiership Taird Division: East kilonde v Grangemouth (2,0). AllB League Pirst: Division (2,30): Ballymena v Rennure; Blackrock College v Ciontarf: Buccaneers v St Mary's; Garryowen v Gork Constitution: Landowne v Galveglans. Second Division: (2,30): Ballynahinch v Maione; Becove Rangers v Ond Crescent; Dolphin v Becove Rangers v Old Crescent; Dolphin v Wanderers; Dungannon v Derry: Old Belvedere v DLSP: Skerrles v Portadown. RACING: Haydock (12.45); Warwick (1.05); Woherhampton (All Weather Flat) (7.0); LINGFIELD (All Weather Flat) (12.50); Sandown (12.55).

Hollins draws satisfaction from job well done

CHEERFULNESS, A rare quality in football these days, keeps John Hollins going. On from a betraval at Chelsea almost 11 years ago, on through the insult of being dumped from the Queen's Park Rangers coaching staff last season to make way for Vinnie Jones.

Things are looking up for Hollins, his educated mark on the controlled football that had Swansea thinking about a ootable success in the FA Cup until Julian Dicks brought West Ham level at 1-1 with less than three minutes left at Upton Park on Saturday.

Hollins does not have to make the point that be knows what he is doing. That was



KEN JONES ON MONDAY

evident in the success of a plan he drew up after going over reports of West Ham's recent efforts in the Premier League.

Carried out with encouraging

diligence it was designed to force West Ham wide in the confidence that Swansea's powerfully built centre-backs, Jason Smith and Matthew Bound together with their tall goalkeeper, Roger Freestone, would win aerial battles.

The smile on Hollins' face was party due to the effectiveness of Swansea's policy. "It worked a treat," he said when we spoke afterwards. What pleased him most, however, was the confidence Swansea showed in construction. "I told them that playing against West Ham would be a relief from the riggurs of Third Division football. That there would probably be more space, more opportu-

The huxury of space sometimes confounded Swansea's midfielders but they soon learned to make good use of it, which explained why West Ham were thrown off their stride

nities to show their ability."

much to their manager's consternation. "We never got going," Harry Redknapp complained afterwards, the look on his face indicating that some harsh words had been delivered in West Ham's dressing-room. "We've got an excellent home record, be added, "but we always seem to make hard work of matches against teams from lower divisions."

Earlier this season West Ham were put out of the Wor-

thington Cup by Northampton and they came desperately close to another humiliation after Smith powered in on a centre from the artful 18-yearold Stuart Roberts to put Swansea ahead in the 61st minute. Shortly afterwards, Roberts confirmed his promise with a curling shot that Shaka

By then Redknapp had begun to make changes, first bringing on the prodigy Joe Cole in place of Eyal Berkovic, who had run out of ideas, then Samassi Abou for John Hartson. It can be confidently

Histop only just turned for a cor-

ner. "If that had gone in I would

have been out on the field lift-

ing him up," Hollins said.

assumed that Hartson and Ian Wright incurred most of Redknapp's displeasure. "From what I could see Harry was in two minds about which of them to bring off," Hollins said.

With less than three minutes left. Swansea paid for a rare lapse in concentration, defending too deeply when Steve Lomas's cross-field pass released Dicks into space. Going on. Dicks unleashed a low leftfooted shot that flew through a crowded goalmouth and beneath Freestone's attempted save to earn West Ham an undeserved replay.

Hollins reported that his players were deeply disappointed. "They did everything that was

asked of them and more," he said. "I'd said all week that they could make names for themselves and once we settled down the confidence was high."

Bound, still feeling the effects of flu was sick in the dressing-room at half-time. "But he wouldn't hear about coming off," Hollins added. "We've got a great spirit going and tremendous support."

At the end, Hollins, waving a Weish flag, ran to the end from where Swansea's 5,000-strong contingent had out-shouted the West Ham fans. "They were marvellous." Hollins said.

On Saturday night, at the London home he still keeps, Hollins found it difficult to sleep.

thinking about one or two things we might have done and how close we were to pulling it off," he said. "But that's behind us. On Tuesday we've got another cup-tie, Gillingham in the Auto

Windscreens Shield Cup." As for the notion that nice guys haven't got a price in football, don't you believe it.

Dall, don't you believe to.

Goales Smith (61) 0-1. Dicks (37) 1-1

Blest Ham (3-5-2): Histop: Pearce. Ruddock, Dicks, Sinclair, Lomes, Poicts. Berlove (Cole. 65). Lazaridis (Omorimin. 52):
Whight, Hartson (Abou. 70). Substitutes
mot used: Breacher, Forrest (gk)
Swansea City (4-4-2): Freestone; 5 Jones.
Smith, Bound, Howard: Roberts, Cusaco.
Thomas, Callest Alcop. Warton, Sebestiones
mot used: Bird. J. Jones, Jenkins, Price.
Of earl.

Ilic error

Keegan craves a packed Cottage

KEVIN KEEGAN will be watching the stands as keenly as the pitch when his Fulham side host Southamptoo in

their FA Cup third-round replay a week oo Wednesday. "I need to believe there's a football club at Craven Cottage," Keegan said after Saturday's draw. "What we are doing there is a waste of time otherwise," be added, saying if there were less than a capacity 19,000 at the replay he might start wondering whether he has a future at the helm of Mohamed Al Fayed's grand

"Wheo I joined Fulham, everyone said it was a big club that needed reviving." Keegan said. "It was certainly a big club in the 1960s but I think it has lost two generations of fans. They're not going to come to Fulham if they can watch Gianfranco Zola at Chelsea. My ambition this year is to see the ground full. It's no good us creating something if the backing isn't there for it to support itself and I stick by

For the manager of a Second Division club - albeit the leading team - to feel so entitled to success would be slightly ridiculous were it not for the resources at his disposal.

Al Fayed's money, however, has enabled Keegan to build a squad (costing some £8m) that will most likely be playing in the First Division next season. With Saturday's opponents (costing around £5m) currently looking likely to be joining them, Keegan's ambitions do not look so far-fetched. "We've learned that we're not that far away [from being a top-level side in terms of players," Kee-

gan said. "In Chris Coleman, who we signed from Blackburn, we've got the best player outside the Premiership by a million miles, and I watch a lot of games. Now we're at home in the replay and I wouldn't want to bet on either of us as it will be a tight game again, but we can certainly

Fulham have already knocked Southampton out of the Worthington Cup this season and on Saturday's eviBY NICK HARRIS

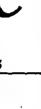
Fulham

70 minutes for a foul on Rufus

"I don't think there's a person in the ground who thought it merited a red card," Dave Jones, the Southampton manager, said. "It was a bad tackle that deserved a yellow card but it was clear that Ken went for

"It's a big relief were still in the competition." Jones said. Hopefully we will have the players [Le Tissier, Stuart Ripley) back for the replay who will create more problems than we did at home. It's going to be difficult, we have to go there and

Keegan, presumably, will be hoping that there will be a full house to watch them try.



dence they are quite capable of repeating the feat. After taking a ninth-minute lead through Steve Hayward and defending it until two minutes into second-half extra-time - when Egil Ostenstad scrambled an equaliser after a defensive slipup - they looked like achieving it at the first attempt. The home side felt they had been the victims of an injustice when Ken Monkou was sent off after

Jones could have no genuine argument that the final result was unfair. With Matt Le Tissier injured, the Saints had no player capable of effectively holding play and were reliant on the long ball and sporadic forays down the wing by Hassan

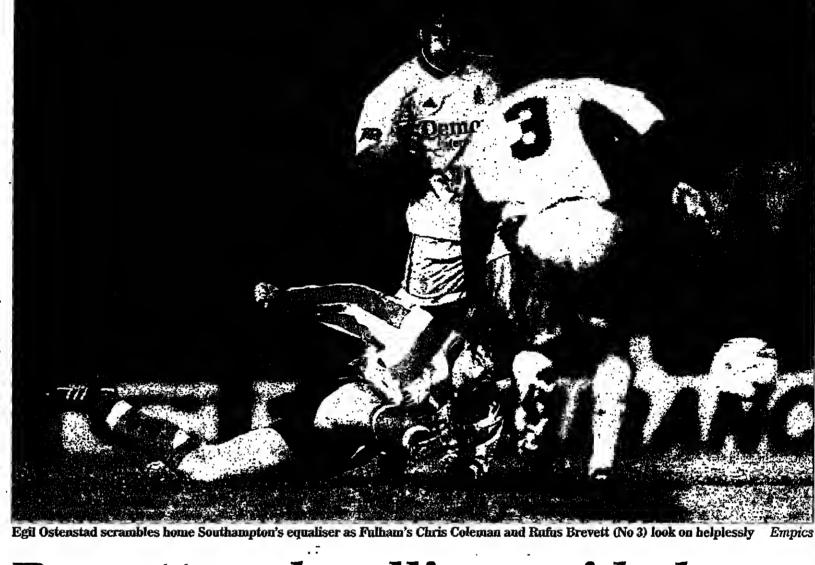
The introduction of Mark Hughes midway through the second half added a measure of determination hut was not enough to galvanise the Saints into anything like the side they need to be if they are to avoid relegation.

he at our hest."

Goals: Hayward (0-1) 9; Ostenstad (1-1)

90.

Southampton (4-4-2): Jones; Colleter, Lundekvarr (Monk, 25), Monkou, Hiley; Kachioui, Palmer, Oakley (Hughes, 66), Dodd; Osrenstad, Beartle, Substitutes not used: Stersgaard, Bridge, Basham, Falham (3-5-2): Taylor; Finnan, Nielson, Brevett; Symons, Bracewell (Collins, 66), Coleman, Hayward, Smith; Horsfield (Trollope, 39), Hayles (Lehmann, 75), Substitutes not used: Uhlenbeek, Arendse.



Bassett seeks allies amid gloom

ALAN BALL has seen enough BY JON CULLEY lows in his managerial career to have sympathy for Dave Nottingham Forest Bassett as Forest's season sinks to new depths. Outside the City Ground on Saturday evening, angry Forest fans chanted for Bassett to be sacked and the plc board to resign. Inside, Ball, having watched his side emerge with character from a crisis of their own, laid the blame for the Nottingham club's hard times

firmly at the feet of the players. "It's all too easy for players to hide behind the manager and let him take the flak." Ball said. having experienced mob hatred in his Manchester City days. "But the players should be honest with themselves and

stand up and face the music.

Outside, a rumour spread that Bassett, who missed the post-match press conference because he felt unwell, had quit. Indeed, a local radio station said as much in an early evening bulletin. Club spokesman Larry Lloyd denied the story and Mickey Adams, Bassett's assistant, insisted his boss was not about to throw in the towel. The day of reckoning, however, may not be far away. Board senseless: Supporters show their anger at Forest's run of defeats

Portsmouth The former Wimbledon manager has a proud record of beating the odds but can seldom have found himself working in less helpful circumstances. After a dismal run of 17 Pre-

miership matches without a win, his players have lost their self-belief and the new blood that might refresh their faith cannot be introduced unless key assets - namely Pierre van Hooijdonk and Steve Stone - are sold first.

accept responsibility. "We put players on pedestals. But they don't have to These big stars can climb into their big cars and sneak off into

the night."

remained "up for the fight", but made one observation that may be significant. "Everywhere be has been before," Adams said, The has had everyone behind him - the players, the fans, the board, the shareholders. I

would question whether that is the case here." It was not clear whether be was referring to the players or the directors, although an earlier remark about the heavy, uneven pitch gave a clue. "That's something else that needs

money spending on," he said. The key figures on the plc hoard - Nigel Wray, Irving Scholar and Phil Soar - will

changed hands two years ago by putting around £16 million into the club, a substantial chunk of which went on settling old debts.

However, investment in the team promoted last season has been inadequate and Wray, principal bankroller of the buyout, is no Jack Walker. Indeed, he is the archetypal City investor about whom football was right to be worried, with no real interest in the game other than as a financial opportunity.

Now, having seen the value of his stake in Nottingham Forest dwindle significantly, he

Adams said that Bassett argue that they have done as has no inclination to throw mained "up for the fight", but they promised when Forest good mooey after had. Even so, it is the players who

ultimately win or lose matches. Given the uncertainty hovering over Portsmouth, where ousted chairman Martin Gregory is being courted for his family's 97 per cent holding, his team perhaps had more excuse even than Forest for under-performing, especially after the way John Aloisi, their most effective striker, was sold, cutprice, from under Ball's nose.

But on Saturday, the side currently 20th in the First Division found the character to respond to the challenge. Sammy Igoe, Jeff Peron and Alan McLoughlin were excelleot in midfield, Steve Claridge, their first-half goalscorer, into the Blackburn goal-mouth tireless in attack; and, from front to back, the entire team defended with commitment. "I gave them some real stick

after we lost to Ipswich the other day." Ball said. "They could have suiked. Instead they

could have sulked. Instead they responded in the right way." Goal: Caridge [17] 0-1.

Notingham Forest (4-4-2): Beason: Lyttle (Gray, 64). Helde, Chettle, Jean; Stone, Johnson (Duashle, 77). Germally, Bart-Williams: Shipperley, Freedman (Harewood, 71). Substitutions not used: Doig. Crossley (gk).

Portsmooth, 13-5-29: Knight: Waterman, Thomson, Vlachos: Robinson, Igoe. McLoughille, Peron, FSimpson; Andreasson (Nightingale, 64). Caridge: Substitutes not used: Philaps, Day, Perrett. R Simpson, Referee: A Wilkie (Chester-le-Street) Bookings: Forest: Hjelde, Shipperley, Harewood: Portsmouth: Vlachos.

Man of the masket: Igoe.

covers up Charlton deficiency BY DAVE HADFIELD

Blackburn Rovers Charlton Athletic

THOSE OF us still hanging around Ewood Park half an bour after this dismal affair were evacuated for a fire alarm. It was an inappropriate aftermath for a cup tie that was never in the remotest danger of

catching light. Although Brian Kidd was adamant that his absentees were injured rather than resting, and Alan Curbishley no doubt genuinely hoped for a lift from a venture into another competition, minds seemed to be elsewhere. Their priority is Premiership survival - and it

Kidd could be pleased that his sixth match without defeat as Blackburn manager featured hit-part players doing a solid joh. But there was little here of the revivalist spirit be has implanted in Rovers. They were often unconvincing at the back and, despite fielding four players whose main job description is winger, contrived to lack width in attack. Charlton are so adept at losing, however, that a shaky display by

Blackburn was good enough. As hopeless sides and generous opponents go, Charlton tend not to be thrashed, even by much better sides; against recuperating teams like Blackburn they frequently look the better side - or perhaps the less

They work diligently and even create chances. But at the moment - and that moment now stretches to seven Premiership matches plus this cup exit - you can be sure they will

navigate a route to defeat. They did so in this tie courtesy of one crass defensive error and one attack of ill-fated eccentricity. The collision of their central defenders. Carl Tiler and Eddie Youds, gave Kevin Davies a clear run at goal

for Blackburn's first goal. Curbishley laid the blame for the second squarely at the door of his goal-keeper. Sasa Ilic made an unauthorised foray for a corner as time ran out. If an equaliser had resulted, he would have been a hero; instead, Rovers broke away to score and he became a convenient scapegoat.

In Ilic's defence, the time when his side had looked capable of forcing a replay had already passed when he took his gamble. John Robinson, working hard and often effectively as an emergency striker; had twice gone close, but Ilic's ill-fated sortie did not look such an outrageous idea until it sud-

an outrageous idea until it suddenly went wrong.
Geals: Davies (45: 1-0; Wicox (88) 2-0.
Blackburn (4-4-2): Filan; Perez, Henctoz, Broomes, Croft: Gillespie, McKinlay,
Marcoln (Dunn, 67). Wifcox: Gallacher
(Duff, 62). Dovies. Substitutes not used:
Konde. Taylor. Fettis (gk).
Charlton (3-5-2): Mills (Newton, 76). Parker
(Bright, 67). Kinsella, Redleam, Powell:
Hunt, Robinson Substitutes not used:
Konchesky, Royce (gk).
Referees: K Burge (Bompandy).
Bookings: Charlton: Parker.
Man of the match: Robinson.
Attendance: 16,631.

The age at which won the women's title on this day in

No brickbats but flying hot dogs floor Durkin

LONDON HAS its palaces, even Blackpool has its tower, but Oldham? Well, shall we say its claims are more prosaic. As you enter the town on the old Yorkshire road a bridge proudly proclaims the place as "the

home of the tubular bandage". Which was prophetic in some ways. You came to Boundary Park expecting to see the home team requiring urgent medical attention after an FA Cup accident and instead it was the referee, Paul Durkin, who had the St John's Ambulance staff clucking like mother hens round him.

Durkin was hit by something thrown from the crowd which no one can condone. Oldham could face a fine, which

By Guy Hodgson

Oldham Athletic

for a cash-strapped club would be a disaster. Or part of their ground could be closed. You cannot allow these things.

That is the sanctimonious bit over. For the referee it was not funny, but a few smiles arrived on other faces when the missile was revealed as a hot dog. Mr Durkin will, however, report the incident to the Football Association.

Even Ken Bates, the Chelsea chairman and aspiring FA supremo, could detect a arrested the culprit, explained lighter side, suggesting that, as the evidence, but the "goal" was BSkyB had reported the object

of the bun it belped knock some

wisdom into the official. Mr Durkin was just about the only person in the ground who

had failed to notice Celestine Babayaro blatantly using his hand en route to Dennis Wise lashing the ball into the Oldham net. He signafled a goal, the linesman had not contradicted him, and if the home players and a sausage had not gone ballistic an injustice would have been done. Perhaps a medical orderly

whispered into the ear he was

treating, or the police, who

disallowed and Babayaro

sue, but whatever the texture riot and bello a routine Chelsea

This was a thoroughly professional job by the Premiership high flyers over a team struggling in the Second Division relegation zone. Even the notorious local weather tried its best, serving up a storm flung down from the Pennines. But the parity Oldham chiselled out, by dint of John Sheridan's master class in midfield and sheer hard work, was surrendered when

the legs ran out after an hour. Perhaps the energy levels would have endured longer if they had been re-charged by a home goal. But, after Steve

Whitehall's shot hit a post,

and then ricocheted crazily round the Chelsea area without The scoreline did not lie. finding the net, the plug was

"We made them look ordinary in the first half," Andy Ritchie, the Oldham manager, said. "The boys have shown what they can do and its up to them to repeat it in the League. If we produce that kind of determination there won't be many Second Division sides who can live with us."

Living with Chelsea was another matter, however, as was laid bare by the quality of the goals. Stuart Thom failed to clear for the first and was ounished hy a deadly finish by Gianluca Vialli. And Bjarne

was a rock, the vendor might cautioned Goodbye a potential bounced off Ed de Goey's head, Goldback's skills down the breathing a little easier that Mr right, that offered his player and manager the second on a plate. are rarely seen in the Natioowide League. "We did our job." Viaili said.

"Oldham did very well and battled and fought for everything. They made us work very hard, but in the end we deserved to win. We know what the FA Cup is about, it's about spirit. He added: "We didn't play at

our best but we did a difficult job well." They did and, as Ritchie

conceded, Boundary Park could have been witness to the start of a winning FA Cup run. He was relieved his side had not capitulated in froot of such obvious quality and was also

Durkin had not been hit by any of the more substantial objects thrown on the pitch. Thank goodness it wasn't one of the local pies," he said "That would have done more

damage than a brick." Oldham might yet oeed some of their renowned bandages when the FA get round to punishing them.

to punishing them.
Goals: Vialli (68) 0-1; Vialli (75) 0-2.
Oldham Athletic (3-5-2): Kelly: Garnett (5man, 63). Thom, Holt (Tipton, 81): Rickers, Duchury, Sheridan, McNiven, Reid: Whitehall, Allort, Substitutes nor used: Miskely, Innes, Salt.
Chelsea (4-4-2): De Goey, Terry, Duberry. Desallik, Le Saux, Goldbaek (Di Marteo, 76), Wise, Morris, Babayaro; Zola (Floht, Nicholls, 68), Vialli, Sopsatieuses not used: Myers, Hitchcock (gkl Referer, P Durkin (Portland, Dosseri, Bookings; Oldbam: McNiven, Garnett, Reid: Chalsea: Babayaro, Duberry.
Man of the match: Shendan
Altendance: 12,770.

12

China's Fu Mingxia world platform diving 1991, thus becoming the youngest world champion in

any sport.

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Blatter's new world order

SEPP BLATTER yesterday BY GLENN MOORE voiced the inevitable, and suggested the World Cup should be held on a biennial basis rather than a four-yearly one. His proposal is apparently prompted by the rising power of the big European clubs but, given the success of the global jamboree, it was bound to come sooner rather than later.

There is also the customary factor of football politics as Fifa, the world governing body of which Blatter is president, tries to limit the power of the continental organizations such as Uefa. The game's politics also means Blatter's proposal, which is being considered by Fifa's executive committee, has a genuine chance of being accepted, though it could not come into practice before 2006. Should it do so, the world foot-

SAM ALLARDYCE, the manager of the Second Division

strugglers Notts County,

threw one of the country's

brightest teenage prospects

into senior action in the FA

Cup on Saturday - and then admitted be wished that no-

Jermaine Pennant's 22-

minute appearance as a sub-

stitute as County earned a

replay with Sheffield United

made him the second young-

est player ever to appear in

the competition. At 15 years

351 days he is 63 days older

than Scott Endersby was

wben he played for Kettering

against Tilbury 22 years ago.

lowly Hartlepool United with a

"The gaffer bere, Mick Tait,

told me he was 41 when he

packed in, so I reckon I've got

a few years left," Beardsley

Beardsley, whose most re-

cent football has been for Ful-

ham after finding himself

frozen out at Bolton, turned

down a chance to rejoin his

first club, Carlisle United, in

order to sign for Hartlepool

but revealed it was a Brunton

Park connection that made up

Tve owed Mick a favour for

20 years," Beardsley said. "He

years in him as a player.

said.

his mind.

Beardsley repays

THE FORMER England in- was at Carlisle when f was

ternational Peter Beardsley, there as an 18-year-old and be

having marked his debut for really helped me and took me

spectacular goal, will be 38 on of repaying the debt and

18 January - but believes he showing my gratitude." still has another two or three

old friend Tait

body had beard of him.

ball calendar would be significantly changed, with the European Championship being radically affected.

Blatter's plan would involve using the various continental competitions, such as the European Championship, in place of the current World Cup qualifying programme. The European competition would thus have to be held every two years, as the Copa America and African Nations' Cup already

are, in odd-numbered years. If these could be co-ordinated, it may ease the current demand on international players - but space would still have to be found for the various qualifying programmes for the continental competitions.

Opposition to the plan is

likely to come from Uefa, European football's ruling body, which would not want its flagship tournament devalued to a qualifying round; the major federations who would fear a similar loss of influence; and, depending on the logistics, the big European clubs.

Blatter said it was the prospect of a breakaway European super league - which might mean clubs depriving national sides of their players, which prompted his suggestion. "I want a football world

championship every two years. Then the national teams will get the rankings they deserve," Blatter said. "The existing fouryearly tournament is out of date. It dates from the 1930s, when teams chugged from one continent to another on ships."

Support will come from

continents like Africa and Asia, which would welcome the increase in exposure and revenue generated by biennial competitions. Their votes might be enough to pass the proposal trut, if the major clubs were not

One positive development from an Englisb perspective is that it would double the chance of hosting a World Cup. However, Sir Bobby Charlton, a leading figure in England's 2006 World Cup hid and a director of Manchester United, led criticism of the proposal.

operate.

"My personal feeling is that every four years is often enough because a World Cup is something to look forward to," Charlton said. "Waiting for it increases the value of it, it would

not have the same attraction

every two years and that would based on finance.

Sir Bobby may have hit the nail on the bead with his last comment - it is no co-incidence that athletics has turned its placated, it could be difficult to World Championships into a biennial event and there have been suggestions for similar changes with the Olympics and the cricket and rugby World

> The FA and the Scottish FA both had a muted reaction preferring to adopt a "wait and see" policy until more details were available. "Interesting," said both Steve Double of the FA and Alec McGivan of the 2006 Bid

> "There would have to be a lot of hard bargaining, and it might not be possible," noted Andy Mitchell, of the Scottish FA.

"It is the first we have beard be very sad. I just hope it is not of this plan, but if we were approached by Fifa we would, of course, judge it on its merits," Mitchell added. "Our first reaction is that there are obvious practical difficulties."

Although more frequent World Cups would devalue the competition, it was clear from the public appetite for last summer's tournament that a biennial competition would retain appeal. Whether it would lead to better foothall is another matter. Only if combined with a thorough rationalisation of club and international fixtures is the game likely to avoid the problems that afflicted Ronaldo in France.

Blatter's proposal has merit but not if it simply becomes another way to milk sponsors, spectators and players.



Sepp Blatter, Fifa president, with the World Cup. He nts it to be contested every two years



Allardyce prefers

Pennant flying low

opened more Premiership

eyes to a boy his club already

regard as priceless. The Eng-

land Schoolboy planned to

sign a contract with County as

soon as he reaches his 16th

birthday on 16 January, but Al-

lardyce fears his bead will be

turned by lucrative offers

for England Schoolboys now,

because it alerted everyone to how good he is," Allardyce

said. "Six or seven Premier-

ship clubs are crawling all

over him and offering him

telephone-figure fees, the sort

of money to turn anybody's

under his wing. This is a way

It took him only 18 minutes

to do so, treating the biggest

crowd of the season at Victo-

ria Park to a scintillating vol-

ley from 20 yards when a

clearance fell nicely for his left

foot, Hartlepool failed to win

but a 2-2 draw with promotion-

chasing Cambridge United

was a creditable result after

five straight defeats, and

chairman Ken Hodcraft reck-

ons Beardsley could spark a

revival in the club's fortunes.

months initially, but if he is

happy we may be looking to

keep him beyond the end of

this season," Hodcraft said.

"He has signed for six

"I regret Jermaine playing

Pennant's performance bead. How can we compete

with that?

Pennant cannot sign a

legally-binding deal until be is

16 and that leaves a loophole

for Premiership clubs to

pounce. "He is a rare talent,"

Allardyce added. "We've

looked after Jermaine since

the age of 10 and done a lot of

work with him. When a club

takes on a local boy like that

on and puts in so much work,

the chairman and the fans

have a right to see him come

all the way through and make

it into the first team. If we lose

Jermaine, it will make me

wonder what the point is of

KEY NUMBERS

The age of Notts County's

Jermaine Pennant, who be-

came the second youngest

player to appear in the FA

Cup when he went on as a

substitute at Sheffield

United on Saturday

30

It is that many years since

title hopefuls Aston Villa

last won the FA Cup

53

The number of seconds

It took for Richard

Johnson to give Watford a

shock lead at Tottenham

on Saturday

I TOLD YOU SO

"They are nice people,

but nice people who

want to beat you,"

The Leeds manager,

David O'Leary, before the

Premiership club narrowly

escaped a Cup upset at Rushden & Diamonds

having a youth system."

THAT WAS THE WEEKEND THAT WAS

EDITED BY JON CULLEY

FA CUP TEAM OF THE WEEK

STEVE HAYWARD MICHAEL OWEN

GIANLUCA YIALLI

Rushden & Diamonds

JIM RODWELL

NEIL LENNON

Leicester City

SAMMY IGOE

ROBERT ULLATHORNE

SHAUN GARNETT Oldram Athletic

DARREN BRADSHAW

Rushden 6 Diamonds

JULIAN DICKS

IAN FEVER

tager of the weekend: Brian Taibot - a superb effort to prepare his Conference crew to match one of the miership's high flyers.

making it... and mistaken



DOMINIC MATTEO

solve his defensive problems.

He has thus been restricted

to only a handful of appear-

THIRD DIVISION

ances this season.

LIVERPOOL ONCE TIPPED to become a new Alan Hansen, the 24-year-old Scot has never quite managed to deliver the promise he displayed in his youth, and has not managed to convince the manager Gérard Houllier that he can



RICHARD DUNNE EVERTON

WITHOUT ATTRACTING the plaudits heaped on teammate Michael Ball, the 19-year-old Dubliner, is none the less establishing himself as a regular in Walter Smith's team, keeping Alex Cleland out of the side after switching from central defence to the right winghack role.



Denzel Washington

IF EVER there was a reason to twin the great cities of Dublin and Washington, look no further. It is quite obvious Dion and Denzel were separated at birth. We can only drool at the lost prospect of seeing them teaming up to lead the Aston Villa attack. What a twin strike force!



Dion Dublin

SCOTTISH

McManaman looks Barcelona bound

STEVE MCMANAMAN'S im- turn to Ron Atkinson as the pending move from Liverpool appears to in the direction of Barcelona, The People says he will turn down Chelsea because be does not want to join a rival Premiership side, while the Express reckons Real Madrid have decided to sign Red Star Belgrade's Perica Ognjenovic, another left-sided player, for £2.1m instead. Both stories give credence to the Moil on Sunday's line that Barcelona have won the race and that McManaman will listen to Internazionale, Juventus and Roma only if the Barça deal hits a snag.

The News of the World, meanwhile, reckons Liverpool want Internazionale's Francesco Morlero, available for £4.5m, as McManaman's replacement While the Peop

says me Nottingham Forest manager, Dave Bassett, is keen on Blackburn's Nathan Blake as a replacement for Pierre finds a buyer for the latter the News of the World recktime looking at any new play-

SECOND DIVISION

man to steer them to Premiership safety. In their bid to land a new

striker to fill in for crocked Nicolas Anelka, the People says Arsenal have lined up a £6m swoop for Real Mallorca's Daniel Garca Lara, who uses the name Dani but is not to be confused with the former West Ham man. According to the News of the World, Arsenal are also looking at Celtic's 19 year-old Mark Burchill, who is out of contract in the summer.

Newcastle could face competition from Tottenham for Romanian midfielder Constantin Gálca, valued at £4m, according to the News of the World The People says Tottenham have asked about Aston Villa's Mark Draper too. The same paper reports swoop for Celtic's former

Bolton defender Alan Stubbs. The Express says Ken Bates would dismiss Glenn van Hooijdonk-assuming he Hoddle as England coach and bring back Terry Venables if he is elected FA chairons Bassett is wasting his man, although the People says Bates has "not a cat-iners. They say be is for the hell's chance" of landing the chop, with Forest ready to top job.

THE WEEK AHEAD

loday; in the last FA Cup third-round tie. Arsenal, the holders, trek north to Preuan North End to face the fourth-placed club in the Second Division whose cond-Dand Moyes, is apparently covered by Manchester United Tomorrows: Proof that football lars will not watch anything (despite the trop no bons of pay perview by ponders) is provided each season by the Auto-Windscreens Sheld, in which interest is minimal until Wembley bedoons. Tonight features a 14-match

programme to which hardly anytine will turn up.

Wednesdays in the same compension. Scuntherpe and Carlisle have the floor to Friday: In the Nationwide League, Wolves are at Transiere, where they really need

to win ro stay in touch with the promotion race.

Saturday: Beck to the Premiership, in which Arsenal against Liverpool, Middlesbrough against Aston Villa and Flewcastle against Cheksa are the centrepretes of an especially spicy programme. Hottingham Forest go to Coventry, one of only two to the broad this beasen, this beason, in the Nanonmode, the QFP reviol is subject-ed to a testing examination at home to the first Downson leaders Funderland, while Second Division leaders Fulham are at home to next-to-bottom Macclesheld. Sunday: West Ham's suspect away form points to a home win for Manchester United in the Premiership while, in the First Division, Terry Venables takes his Crystal Palace side to Bolton's Perbot Stadium

FOOTBALL RESULTS

Townsend 52 52,232

E Nidmehraus 18 33	Norwich (1)1 Roberts 45
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Satu	ırday
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- Indian 1	MUNICIPAL PROPERTY -
- Boundmouth 1	West Brom0
Bristol Co. 0	Enerton passessed
	Stockport3 Yeovii1
- Dealer Brack	mu 1 <i>3 (011001</i> Y
SERBOURISM 7	Macclesfield0 Oxford Utd3
Dicester4	Birmingham2
** A	Completeland

Replay: Tuesday 12 January ...O Barnsley --

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP LEADING SCORERS

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION

LEADING SCORERS

SECOND DIVISION

LEADING SCORERS

LEADING SCORERS

FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

Divisions Vesterday's matches postponed.

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE Presider
Division: Cititarnille I Ballyman 0: Coleraine 0 Glentoran 1: Crusaders 0 Portadown 0: Glentoran 1: Crusaders 0 Portadown 0: Junifield 123-441; 3 Crusaders (23-44). Pirst Divisions: I Glentoran
(P23. Pts49); 2 Linfield (23-44); 3 Crusaders (23-44). Pirst Divisions: Ballyclare
Comrades 6 Dungannon 0: Bangor 3 Limavady 4; Distillery 4 Ards 3; Lame 3 Carrick Rangers 2.

LEAGUE OF WALES: Bangor City 0 Caersws 1; Carmarthen 0 Inter Cable-Tel
Cardiff 1: Newtown 1 Rhayader 0; TNS
Liansantifirald 4 Haver fordwest 2. Other
matches postponed. Leading positions:
1 Barry (P15, Pts35); 2 Cwmbran (1530); 3 Aberystwyth (15-29).

(includes 3 goals for Aberdeen) s (Motherwell) ... 5 0 5 0 0 10 SCOTTISH LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION ...4 Strauraer1 Airdrie5 Raich Hibergian ... Paikirk LEADING SCORERS LeeSC CC EnrOch Test14 0 2 0 0 1611 0 1 0 0 1211 0 1 0 0 12

PREMIER LEAGUE1 Dundee Utd0 Hearts4 Aberdeen LEADING SCORERS

> THIRD DIVISION Postponed: Dumbarton v Berwick LEADING SCORERS

ly (17-36).

SPANISH LEAGUE: Valencia 2 Real So-cledad 0: Athletic Bilbao 2 Valladolid 1; Barcelona 7 Alaves 1; Real Berts 4 Villar-real 1: Ciclia Vigo 6 Oviedo 2: Eurremadu-ra 1 Mallorca 0; Racing Santander 2 Adetico Madrid 3; Real Madrid 4 Tenerife 0; Salamanca 2 Espanyol 3.

3 Marconi Fari field (12-24).

ISRABLI MATIONAL LEAGUE: Maccabi
Jaffa 0 Hapoel Jerusalem 1; Hapoel Beit
She'an 4 Ironi Rishon Lezion 2: Zalinim
Holon 3 Brei Yehuda 1; Maccabi Herzilya
1 Hapoel Tel Ann 1; Hapoel Petah Tikva
1 Maccabi Haifa 3: Hapoel Haifa 4 Maccabi Petah Tikva 0; Betar Jerusalem 4 Ironi
Astidod 2: Maccabi Tel Ann 5 Hapoel Kfar
Sava 0. Leading positions: 1 Hapoel Haifa
(P15, Pts38); 2 Maccabi Haifa (15-35);
3 Betar Jerusalem (15-31). TODAY'S FOOTBALL FA CUP THIRD ROUND Preston v Arsenal (8.0)

TENNENTS SCOTTISH

CUP SECOND ROUND

Postponed: Queen of the South v Ross County: Queen's Park v Clachnacuddin.

County: Queen's Park v Clachnacuddin. AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL LEAGUE: Newcaste Breakers 1 Adelaide City 0; South Melbourne 1 Sydney United 0; Gipp-sland Falcons 0 Brisbane Strikers 2; Ade-lade 5harks 2 Norrhem Spirit 3; Perth Glory 3 Carlton 0; Sydney Olympic 3 Mel-bourne Knighs 0; Marconi 3 Wollongong Wolves 3. Leading positions: 1 South Melbourne (P13, Pts.7); 2 Perth (12-26); 3 Marconi Farfield (12-24). SPARILI MATCHMA! 1 EMGS IP: Marconii

Civil Service 0 Albion ...

Dalbeattle ______ East Fire Forfar _____ East Fire flustly ______ 3 Peterhead Inverness CT _____ 1 Usingston Keith _____ 0 Brechin _____ Montrose _____ 0 Schring _____ 5 Cowdeab

SCOTTISH LEAGUE Hamilton v Clydebank (3.0).....

THE TIMES FA YOUTH CUP Third round: Gillingham v Leicester City (7.30). PONTINS LEAGUE First Division: Wolverhampton Wanderers v West Bromwich Albion (7.0). Third Division: Carlisle Utd v Darlington (2.0). AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION First Division: Chelsea v Luton Town (7.0) (at Kingstonion FC).



Miss Sed (0) Cole-58 Frain pen 82 Ross 90 Pert Male (0) "O Liverpool (2)...

sday 12 Junuary ...0 Insurich1 Swansea .

day 13 January

West Brom. Sheff Utd Wolves

Light Communication | Light Communication | Light Room | Light Communication | Light Room | Ligh

to Bans(cod).
HARP LAGER NATIONAL LEAGUE OF
RELAND Premier Division: St Patrick's
Athetic 2 Shelbourne 1; Bray Wanderers
0 UCD 0; Cork City 1 Stage Rovers 0: Derry
City 1 Waterford 0: Dundalk 0 Bohemians
1; Shamrock Rovers 2 Finn Harps 0.
Leading postcions: 1 Cork City (P19.
PD45); 2 St Patrick's (19-42); 3 Shamrock
Rovers (18-28). PORTUGUESE LEAGUE: Guimaries 3 Alverca 1; Farense 1 Lefra 1; Beira Mar 4 Salgueiros 1: Rio Ave 1 Braga 2; Chaves 3 Campornalorense 2.

LEADING SCORERS

oned: Greenack Morton v St Mir-

Everton enticed by realistic dreams



be increasingly devalued in comparison to Premiership and European competition but there was no disguising its restorative effects at Ashton Gate on Sat-

urday night. They may have been fortunate to defeat a willing Bristol City 2-0 hut, as Everton returned north they were not talking about the Cup's lustre being dulled by penalty shootouts, sponsorship or the threatened scrapping of replays they were too busy enjoying a rare moment of hope. The Merseysiders' hitherto miserable season now has a more eoticing ambition than simply avoiding relegation. A Wembley date in May, and a sixth FA Cup triumph, is the dream.



GLENN MOORE

This may seem far-fetched given Everton's struggles to date, their Premiership campaign having featured a mere 13 goals in 20 games, but history is on their side. Four years ago they were in the Premiership's relegation zone when they

spring revival which saw Rangers manager. They have Division and have followed the Ade Akinbiyi threatened to team. Everton rise clear of the drop been reasonably solid at the bold step of employing a former reward in the second period. before defeating Manchester back, with good goalkeeping United at Wembley

Still not convinced? History of clubs likely to be holding up the old pot in May. In the past 20 years all but four winners have come from Everton, Liverocol. Manchester United, Arsenal and Spurs. This quintet have also provided nine of the beaten finalists.

Still not convinced? You've recently. Despite heavy investment by Walter Smith, the team is still in transition, as it evolves from the long-ball dependence travelled to Bristol for a fourth- on the now-departed Duncan round tie. A 1-0 victory on a Ferguson to the passing style

and Dave Watson continuing to defy his 37 years. The midfield also tells us that Everton, at is promising, though they are home to Ipswich in the fourth short of a right-flank player. The round are one of a select band attack, however, remains a problem, as it has been for most of the decade.

Yet the least-prolific forward line in all four divisions would never get a better chance than on Saturday - City's defence is the worst in the country, having conceded 54 goals in 26 league games. Something had to give obviously seen Everton and, eventually, the dam broke on Everton's goalscoring as Ibrahima Bakayoko scored twice in the last four minutes to win a tie that should by then have been lost.

However, four home Bristol City are deep in troumatches without defeat

porters' website.

son, the former rock musician

foolhardy. Ward, who gained

£2.75m on players and Lennart-

son has since added another

exotic signings. He has also

taken time to settle in, with

"Benny a joke?" one of the most

visited sites on the City sup-

Bristol Rovers manager, John The £1.2m summer signing from Gillingham worried Ever-Ward, with the even bolder one of replacing him with a ton with his strength and pace Swede, Benny Lennartson. and, having first crossed for Matt Hewlett to hit the post, Some fans regard this last move by chairman Scott Davishould have headed in after 70 minutes. A minute later he drove just over and when Don turned newspaper entrepre-Hutchinson survived a penalty neur, as not so much bold as appeal for a trip on Moldova's Ion Tistemitanu, Everton promotion last season, had only just finished spending It was confirmed with

Bakayoko thumping in a freefilm to the bill with a series of kick from 30 yards seven minutes later. "I didn't know he could take free-kicks." said into league games." Smith, adding: "He's got himself a job now."

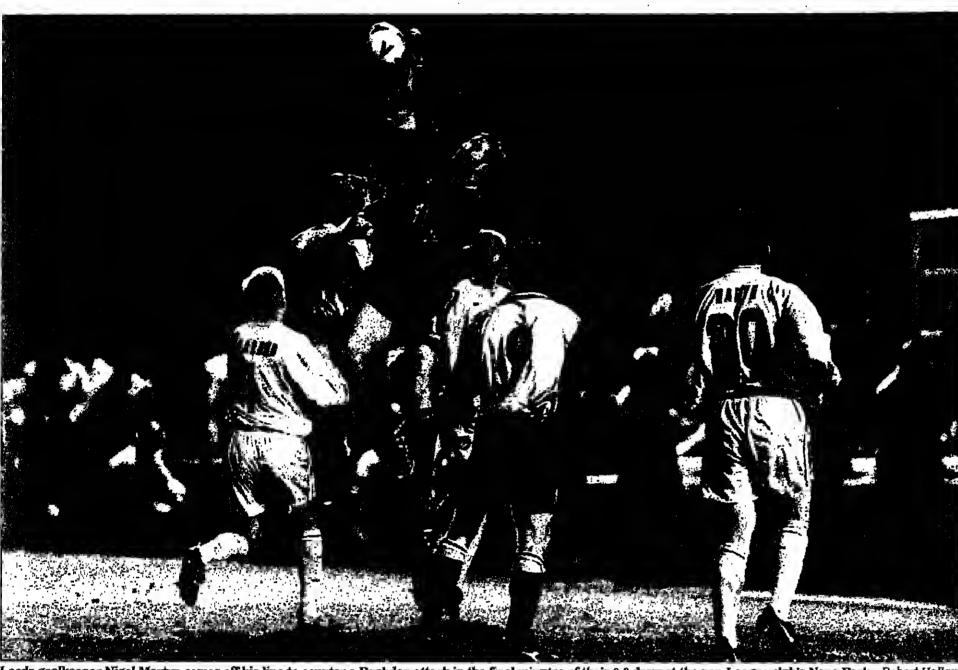
Bakayoko added a second from Tony Grant's pass and later eulogised about playing cup success usually delays

Better days may be ahead and David Unsworth, one of three survivors of the '95 match (with Watson and City's Mark Shall) said: "I hope this kickstarts us into mid-table. Four years ago it all clicked together about the time we came down bere and we tried to re-create that by doing things like staying in the same hotel and playing 'All Together Now' (their '95 began to sense it was their day. FA Cup song) on the coach. We were more under the cosh in that game but this was similar and now we have to take battling performances like this

> Smith also boped a good cup run would reflect positively on league form and well he might as it is worth noting that

tricky pitch set them up for a preferred by the former ble at the wrong end of the First engendered hope which City's with passers of his quality in the wrong at the trophy in 1995 did spring revival which saw Revisers are the trophy in 1995 did not save Joe Royle when Everton slipped back into relegation trouble two years later. Nor have last year's successful cup runs hy Stevenage Borough. Newcastle United and Sheffield United kept Paul Fairclough, Kenny Dalglish or Steve Thompson in employment. The FA Cup may still glitter but it is the league that matters these days, at any level, and woe-betide a manager who forgets it.

Goales Biskayolo (86) U-1; Ediziyolo (125)
G-2.
Bristol City (4-4-2), Philipsi, Locke (Hutchings, 76), Shail, Carey, Belli, Murray, Tiscimicanu. Hewletz (Goodridge, 76), Sandersen; Korpey, Alurbiyi, Sebsetieutes not useed: Dyrice, Thorpe, B Andersen (§1), Everton, (3-5-2) Myhre; Silic, Watson, Unswerth: Durane, Dacter (Grant, h-1), Barmby (Oster, 58), Hutchinson, Balli, Cadamarten (Branch, 81), Bulkayolo, Substitutes not used. Cleisind, Simonsen (§4), Referee: J Winter | Stockton-on-less, Booked: Bristol Citys Alurbiyi, Goodridge Erenton: Unsworth, Ball, Bilic.
Man of the match: Watson



Leeds goalkeeper Nigel Martyn comes off his line to counter a Rushden attack in the final minutes of their 0-0 draw at the non-League club's Nene Park Robert Hollom

Diamonds' ambition shines through

THE FINAL whistle at Nene By ADAM SZRETER Park was greeted, appropriately, with cheers all around the ground. But had they known better, the good folk of Irthlingborough, Rusbden and other assorted towns of the Northamptonshire sboe-broker belt that is home to the Vauxhall Conference aristocrats might have been excused

for feeling a little let down. Brian Talbot, Rushden's manager, was certainly right to claim afterwards he had created a "good little side". It was one that made a depleted Premiership team struggle all the way to avoid another famous chapter being written in the Leeds United book of FA Cup

Rushden & Diamonds Leeds United

Foster, Rushden's top scorer, taken his beaded chance in the first minute it might well have happened. As it was, when Clyde Wiin-

hard hit the post for Leeds seven minutes later it seemed David O'Leary's side would tralian Harry Kewell was in live-Luton Town goalkeeper, Ian Feuer, just about coped with a blocked another from Wijnhard side would be most grateful for it hard to buy into the traditional

But in the last 10 minutes of the first half Rushden began to pick holes in Leeds' makeshift defence. There were excellent chances for Miguel de Souza, Carl Heggs and, finally, Foster again from a free-kick following Jonathon Woodgate's 43rdminute foul on De Souza that earned the Leeds defender his assert themselves. The Aus- first yellow card of the match.

There were no such openly mood and hriefly the ings for either side in the secnon-Leaguers were hanging ond half, despite a second on desperately. Their former booking for Woodgate that reduced Leeds to 10 men for the last 15 minutes. Rushden gave fierce drive from Jimmy Floyd it all they had, but eventually it calamities. Indeed, had Adrian Hasselhaink, Tim Wooding was a most point as to which lence of the surroundings made role models.

and Kewell himself headed just a draw: the 10 men of Pre- non-League cup lore. miership Leeds, or a non-League side with a name more like an amalgamation between two local nightclubs than two

> local football clubs. It would be wrong to assume this was a "romantic" occasion. There were goosehumps, but only thanks to the freezing cold after the sun had dipped down behind the end of the smartly-appointed ground occupied by the home fans. There were no brickies, or even bank clerks, among the highlypaid Rushden ranks, no supporters climbing nearby trees to watch footballing history in the making, and the very opu-

In normal circumstances, a ideal result for the minnows a bumper pay-day for the replay at Elland Road, a great night out for the supporters and players, and everyone happy. But boots, Rushden & Diamonds have no need for an extra half a million or so. They are already wealthier than most clubs in the Nationwide League they confidently expect to be joining, if not this year then next, and they make no secret of their ultimate designs on the Premiership itself, citing Wimbledon as their

thought, when he heard that

would be a good measure of the

First Division club's progress

aware that George Graham had

much the same idea. Graham

had been stung by suggestions

that Spurs had an easy ride

against a weakened Manches-

ter United in the Worthington

Cup and badly wanted a positive

reply in the more searching

competition. Sure enough, it

was a match in search of weak-

nesses, and frenetic, with Wat-

ford scoring after 53 seconds to

test Tottenham's resolution vir-

tually from the kick-off. And at

the end it was Taylor who an-

swered for both managers. "I al-

ways knew we had some way to

go," he said. "We're not a bad

team, but Spurs are not far off

being exceptional. You only have

to look at the back line to see

George's influence; and Ginola...

we knew we couldn't sit back and

Oddly enough, the rise and rise of Wimbledon began with a replayed FA Cup tie against draw might be seen as the Leeds United, when the Dons were still in the Soutbern League. Wimbledon eventually lost to Leeds, but reached the Premiership a few years later. The same fate might await thanks to the chairman, Max Rushden & Diamonds, but Griggs, and his Doctor Marten surely there can only be one Wimbledon - please?

Walthurston - DISBS: Rushden & Dismonds (4-4-2): Feuer. Wooding Bradshaw, Rodwell, Underwood: Hamshet, McBhatton, Butterworth, Heggs; Foster, De Souza, Substitutes not used: Brady, Whyte, Wilson, Cooper, Corry (gk). esed: Brady, wnyce, which woodgate, ry (gk).
Leeds United (4-4-2): Martyn: Woodgate, Hasand, Harte, Gramule; Halle, Bowyer, Hopkin, Kewell: Wijnhard (Smith, 67). Hasselbaink, Substitutes not used: Ribeiro, lacison, McPhali, Robinson (gk).
Referee; S Dunn (Brissol).
Sending-off: Leeds: Woodgate, Bookings Rushden: Butterworth, Poster Leeds

Hull find comfort in defeat

ON REACHING the dais in the By Phil Shaw interview theatre. Hull's diminutive player-manager, Warren Joyce, declined a seat because "no one will see me". Despite the scale of Villa's victory, the League's bottom team bad troubled the Premiership leaders enough to encourage his belief that he can prevent them

disappearing from view, It is a tall order. The Tigers are an endangered Third Division species, adrift in the drop zone and more likely to be visiting Kidderminster or Hednesford than Villa Park in the foreseeable future. Yet the way they kept sticking their heads above the parapet showed a

spirit which belied their plight. Joyce, while heartened that Hull had competed vigorously, better team you can accept it." he said, bemoaning lapses in concentration and discipline. "But we contributed to our own downfall."

Healthy but harsh. A Villa side who scored three times in 20 minutes against Arsenal, the country's most parsimonious defence, did not breach Hull's lines until seconds before half-time. Although the outcome was beyond doubt by the midway point in the second half, Steve Wilson did not make his first genuine save until the

89th minute. Gregor Rioch, the Hull wingback whose father Bruce used to captain Villa, felt the tie had forged a bond between club and city. Some 7,000 travelling fans roared "Who are yer?" at Villa's household names and generated a fervour which could be crucial if maintained in the months ahead.

"The numbers and the noise they made were stunning," Rioch said. "I turned to one of the other players when we were warming up and said: I can't believe the support we've got here.' That is what is going to help us to stay up. I'm confident we won't go down."

Aston Villa Huli City

So fired up was Riocb that he scythed down Steve Watson after only seven seconds to earn a yellow card. Fortunately the challenge would not prove typical of Hull's approach. Villa, who lost Alan Thompson on the eve of the game with damaged ankle ligaments and rested Dion Dublin, were thankful for that much but by John Gregory's admission made "heavy weather" of winning.

Stan Collymore scored twice, as well as crossing for Julian Joachim to head the second, though one suspects revealed a bealthy reluctance his overall display may have to accept bonourable defeat. "If underwhelmed Gregory. The Joachim as a foil to Dublin, and his intimation that Collymore might have pushed harder for a hat-trick suggested that he could be back on the bench come Saturday.

Gregory must also have been mystified by the failure to threaten at corners. Justin Whittle, Hull's £50,000 centreback from Stoke, was able to look like a lower-division Gareth Southgate for an afternoon.

Villa nevertheless won comfortably enough, and when Hull's Richard Peacock skewed a late shot horribly wide, the Holte End's sardonic "Savo. Savo" reminded us that New Year is a time for remembering old acquaintances. Gregory, a self-confessed FA Cup romantic, reckons it is high time they became reacquainted with the trophy after a 42-year estrangement.

ment.
Goals: Collymore (45) 1-0: Joachim (51)
2-0: Collymore (67) 3-0.
Aaton Villa (3-5-2): Oakes: Ehiogu.
Sourhgare, Barry: Watson (Charles: 70).
Schrieca, Dräper (Grayson, 58), Hendrie (Lescott, 77). Wright: Collymore, Joachim.
Substitutes not esset: Vassell, Rachel (gk).
Muli Cley (3-5-2): Wilson: Whittle, Edwards.
Hocking: Greaves (Peacock, 55), O'Auria.
Joyce (Hawes, 66). Brown (McGinty, 55).
Ricch: Morkey, Faulconbridge: Substitutes not used: Ellington, Boider.
Referee: 5 Mathleson (Stockport), Bookings: Holl: Roch, Brown.
Man of the mabel: Southgate.
Aktendance: 39,217.

Shearer's goal instinct intact Taylor stung by the set-pieces

IN THEIR January sale, the Newcastle United club shop was offering a generous discount on black and white slippers, but despite recent reports of his demise it will evidently be off. To a neutral it appeared to some time before Alan Shearer slips his footballing feet into something more comfortable.

The England striker's image emerged as a prescient choice to adorn the cover of the match midfielder, Fan Zhiyi. Given programme, as his contribution made contact with the ball won the match for Newcastle. runners-up to Arsenal in last year's FA Cup. Shearer's chest. one sparsely adorned with winners' medals in his career so far, set up a brilliant first goal for what proved to be the winner eight cards before 35,000 selfagainst an insubstantial Crystal Palace side.

can slip out of your hands," was Ruud Gullit's post-match cominjuries and poor results rather the time. than his goalkeeper's sending-

By PETER CONCHIE

Crystal Palace

be an open-and-shut case of careless hands when Shay Given rushed from his area to for the first time in the match. intercept a through ball intended for the swift Chinese some vards outside his area, and the assistant referee, Mr Webb, alerted referee Mike Reed to a handball.

The Premiership's most card-happy referee flourished Gary Speed and be later scored the second of the afternoon's appointed fourth officials. The decision outraged the baying St "It's incredible how things James' Park crowd, but it emerged as a fair one, as Given clearly played the ball with a ment, one which alluded to stiff arm rather than his chest, Newcastle's recent run of as he unconvincingly claimed at

Given's sending-off and the England striker's shrewd,

previously messy game. Newcastle briefly lost their heads amid the ensuing furore, allowing Clinton Morrison to elude the impressive Warren Barton

His accurate cross was headed in firmly by Lee Bradbury. Palace looked promising in the first period - their wing back totem, Duncan Ferguson, Jamie Smith drew Palace's right flank together neatly, while the midfielder Simon Rodger harried Dietmar Hamann and Aaron Hughes in the centre. What they lacked, unfortunately, was coherence, persistence and self-belief, especially in a

disunited last 45 minutes. After Speed's splendid goal early in the second half, Newcastle looked likely winners, a view Shearer's strike confirmed. Barton's cross drifted over the bead of Sun Jihai, who had been fooled by the

subsequent goal-scored before faded run to the far post. GRAHAM TAYLOR'S first By Norman Fox his replacement, Steve Harper, Shearer calmly hrought the had touched the ball - shaped a ball down and finished, rightfooted, from six yards.

In last year's third round, Ian Rush scored a rare Newcastle goal to start their cup run since he returned. He was unagainst Everton, while Shearer's semi-final atrike against Sheffield United took them to Wembley. However, with their latest attacking absent for up to two months with a groin injury, Newcastle should hope that the FA Cup draw is as generous with lowerleague opponents this season as it was last.

Goals: Bradbury (18) 0-1; Speed (48) 1-1; Shearer (69) 2-1, Shearer (69) 2-1.

Neurastile United (4-4-2) Given, Barron (Georgadis, 83), Dabbas, Solano, Charver, Speed, Hamann, Hughen, Glass (Harper, gk., 13); Shearer, Andersson, Sobschusses mot used: Pearce, Necsbala, Brady, Crystal Palace (5-3-2) Miller; Smith, Mullins, Moore, Turtle, Son Ilhal; Rodger, Fan Zhyl (Linighan, 75), Foster (Jarsen, 50); Morrison, Bradoury (Bent, 69), Subscitutes not used: Petric, Digby (gk).
Raferwer M Reed (Birmingham), Booklings: Newcassels: Barton, Speed, Palaces Sim Jihai, Foster, Fan Zhyl, Mullins, Linighan Saedillag off; Newcasstle: Given, Mass of the manch: Barton.

Attendance: 36,536.

Watford had to go to White Hart Tottenham Hotspur Lane in the FA Cup, was that it Watford

watch him play, but I could do that all day."

Ginola was decorative and destructive, stretching and diverting a none too well orientated Watford defence, but the key to Tottenham's recovery was Darren Anderton, whose reliability in his passes and cen-

tres turned the game. Curiously, while Watford could be forgiven for not having the guile to counter Anderton and Ginola's skills, Les Ferdinand's power, and the overview of Allan Nielsen, their eventual downfall was an inability to counter something far more predictable: set-piece situations. Yet, for being caught out the most spectacularly, Spurs took

the trophy. That goal within the first

Ben Iroha brushed past a slowly retreating midfield and defence before hitting the bar. Richard Johnson, who as a 16year-old was turned down by Sours, completed the tap in with revengeful delight.

Graham stormed to the

touchline long before the hailstones and lightning gave an altheatrical backdrop. Spurs snapped to attention. Practice ground routines came to their rescue, allowing Ginola to perform his dazzling improvisation. After 10 minutes lending off Watford's hurst of ambitious energy, Anderton played a short corner to Ruel Fox, who crossed for Steffen Iversen to head in,

Giving away a penalty when Steve Palmer bandled from Anderton's free-kick was another example of Watford's susceptibility to dead-ball challenges, and once Anderton had put that minute was a relapse into the away he relished another worst of the carelessness that a chance to place a corner into the

year ago was almost a disease. Watford gap, this time for Iversen to score from Ferdinand's knock-down. Taylor confessed that, at 3-1, he could see Spurs strolling away. However, it was Peter Kennedy who strolled upfield to head in from Darren Bazeley. By then, though, Tottenham had confidence but they were grateful for a slovenly clearance by Micah ready dramatic match a Hyde, which offered Nielsen a successful 20-yard shot.

> All of that in the first half. So. predictably, the second was comparatively tranquil Ginola did everything but talk the ball in, and offered the centre that in, and offered the centre that led to Fox scoring Spurs' fifth. Goals: Johnson (1) 0-1; Nersen (1) 1-1; Anderson (14, per) 2-1; Nersen (20) 3-1; Kernedy (34) 3-2; Neisen (43) 4-2; Fox (87) 5-2; Neisenham Horspur (4-4-2); Wellker: Carr. Campbell, Young, Smiton (Edinburgh, 86); Fox Neisen, Anderton (Cernence, 66). Gnobi: Nersen, Ferdhand, Sebsotisties not used: Calderwood, Allen, Baardsen (gk.). Wastford (4-4-2); Chamberlain: Iroha, Palmer, Page, Robinson: Bazeley, Hyde (Rosential, 46), Johnson, Kernedy, Noel-Milliams, Smart (Wright, 65), Sebsotisties not used: Oay (gk.). Hazon, Gibbs, Referee; P Jones (Leucester).
>
> Bookings: Tottenhams. Carr. Wastford: Iroha.

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BY PHIL SHAW

Port Vale



MICHAEL OWEN. born when his father Terry was a journeyman centreforward with Port Vale, showed no sentiment to the

Potteries club yesterday. On a day of firsts for Liverpool - who had surely never changed in a portakahin before - Oweo marked his FA Cup debut by converting the penalty which put the five-time bolders in command on what was also Gérard Houllier's introduction to the competition.

The 19-year-old England striker duly became the first Liverpool player to score in his first game in the League, Europe, tha League Cup and the FA equivalent Absentill when Liverpool went out to Coventry in last year's third round, he went about his task as if making up for lost time, although the losers argued with some justification that Owen went to ground rather too readily for the spot-kick award.

Paul Ince quickly killed the game as a contest by doubling the advantage. Owen, undaunted by chants of "cheat", set up the third goal in stoppage time, Rohhie Fowler's first since his hat-trick at Aston Villa in November.

Thirty-five years ago this month Liverpool had come to Burslem for a replay, squeezing through in the last minute of extra-time before 43,000 paying customers and an estimated 10,000 gatecrashers. The rematch was a more orderly affair, with fewer than 17,000 ticket-holders filling the three sides of Vale Park currently in use and the home side unable to emulate the valiant deeds of their predecessors.

Vale's FA Cup scalps include Tottenham and Everton during John Rudge's reign as manager. But the quagmire which helped them upset Spurs was replaced here by a smooth surface, ideal for Liverpool's ground-level game, and Rudge has struggled to replace players like Jon McCarthy and Steve Guppy who did so much to hreak Goodison's grip on

A flu outbreak forced the



Man of the match Michael Owen, of Liverpool, is tackled by Port Vale's Michael Walsh during yesterday's FA Cup third round match at Vale Park

give a dehut to Neil Brisco, a free-transfer recruit from Manchester City. The 20-year-old, playing with a cast on a fractured hand, tackled and chased his heart out. However, with Vale low on craft and confidence, it was only a matter of time hefore Liverpool trans-

lated possession into goals. The spectacle required the

James, and Brian McGlinchey, volleying across the six-yard area following another set-piece, hinted at an upset, but Owen's ability to run at opponents like a one-man swarm was already worrying the thirty-somethings staffing Vale's back three.

Paul Beesley was booked for the second of two fouls on home team to score first. Peter him, a factor that may have

before half-time. Beesley offered no challenge, yet when Dave Barnett snaked out a leg it was all the invitation the teenager needed to go turn-

Echoes of Argentina in St Etienne, except that this time Oweo got up to take the penalty himself. Putting the memory of a recent miss at

the midriff of the diving David surged towards him 11 minutes his 16th goal of the season.

Vale, who have conceded 50 goals in the League, were indebted to McGlinchey for hooking Phil Babb's header off the line four minutes later. But from the ensuing corner, by Patrik Berger, Babb again won the ball in the air and Ince glanced

Liverpool's secood. The second half could have become a training exercise for

credit, kept plugging away and might have set up a pulsating final half-hour had Babb not raced hack to make a superb sliding tackle on Tony Navlor.

Rudge sent on a trio of replacements, but there is no substitute for Owen's scorching pace. In stoppage time, he burned off Michael Walsh near the corner before cutting the ball back to Fowler who hit home Goals: Owen Ipen, 34) 0-1; Ince (38) 0-2; Fowler (90) 0-3. Pert Male (3-5-2); Pilkington; Aspin, Bar-nett, Bensley (Horlandle, 70); Wolsh, Brisco (O'Callaghan, 87), Bogle, Tankard, McGilinchey (Corden, 84); Naylor, Beadle, Substituties not used: Snijders, Mus-seboline (ott).

schwhite (gk).
Liverpool (3-5-2): James: Carragher, Staundon. Babb; McAdeer, Ince, Red-knapp, Berger, Bjornebye (Harkness, 70); Owen, Riedle (Fowler, 51). Substitutes not used: Kierine, Thompson, Friede (gk). Rafferner: R Harris (Oxfordshire), Baokings: Port Males Bessley, McGinchey, Barnett, Brisco, Liverpool: Riedle.

a Burton this time

BY CLIVE WHITE

Plymouth Argyle **Derby County**

FIFTEEN YEARS on, the story was not so very different to last time, in as much as it was nonstop Plymouth attack against an obstinate Derby defence with the visitors' goal enjoying something of a charmed life. But whereas on that occasion the Pilgrims, who went on to reach the semi-finals, deservedly earned a secood bite at the cherry-Steve Cherry, to be precise - this time the Derby goalkeeper, the erratic Mart Poom, was to be spared such an ordeal because of his team's unusually sharp opportunism.

In a season when Derby's lack of finish has cost them their place among the Premiership's pacesetters, this will have been the most pleasing aspect of their win for their manager. Jim Smith. That and the fact that they bad survived without seven first-teamers.

If goalscoring is all about confidence theo Deon Burton, standing in for the suspended Paulo Wancbope, will have received an appropriate lift with his brace here, while Dean Sturridge certainly ought to take some encouragement from his contribution. On Saturday he was Plymouth's chief tormentor.

It was the sort of cup tie that had Argyle fans pining for one of their old favourites, the legendary Tommy Tynan. What profit their current commercial manager would have made of a 16-5 corner count in Plymouth's favour. Smith admitted: Their delivery from corners and set pieces was excellent we had to defend well."

Unfortunately for Plymouth they were undone too early by Sturridge, who skipped past a defender to deliver the cross from which Burton headed home unchallenged at the near post after 15 minutes, and then six minutes later forced Paul Wotton into a reckless challenge from which Stefano Eranio prospered from the spot.

Nothing if not game, Plymouth maintained their all-out assault on the Derby goal, and Foom's handing was such that the visitors were never completely secure. When he came and missed, dropping a golden opportunity into Lee Phillips' lap, the young striker somehow failed to locate the empty net. However, the Estonian redeemed himself with a double save from Wotton and Earl Jean sbortly before half-time. Eranio's second shot from

the spot, after 52 minutes. struck the post, hut seven minutes from time Plymouth had well and truly gone for a Burton as the Jamaican international punished slack defending to shoot high into the home net. Goales Burron 115) 0-1; Eranio (pen 21) 0-2; Burron 193) 0-3.

Plymoeuth Angyle 14-3-2-1) Sheffield: Aston, Heathcore, Wotton, Besweithenck (Marshall, 66); Mange, Barlow, Hargresses; Jean, Phillips (McCall, 66); McCartin, Substitutes not used: Sweeney, Bastow, Dungey (pt.).

Partic Control 12-5-2: December 1941. Derby County (3-5-2) Poom: Carbonari, Pri-cy, Ellott: Kozlisk, Laursen, Carsley, Erank (Harper, 79), Boninen (Hunt, h-1), Sturndge Burron, Substituties not esset: Launders Bridge-Wildmoon, Houlet (gk). Reference E Wolstenholme (Blackburn),

Humphreys' persistence pays dividends

TAKES the Cup to bring the BY DAVE HADFIELD best out of Ritchie Humphreys. In fact, it takes the Cup to Sheffield Wednesday bring anything at all out of him in the way of goals.

Wednesday's young forward had not scored since putting two past Grimsby exactly two years ago, but he claimed two more at Hillsborough yesterday to set up a meeting with Stockport in the fourth round.

With no immediate prospect of a reunion with Paolo di Canio - who has indicated that be plans to return to Sheffield when his current sick note expires at the end of the month, provided they have not sold him first – Wednesday's other Ital-ing Michael Watt.

Norwich City

ian. Benito Carbone, forged a partnership with Humphreys that was too much for Norwich.

The goals that tilted the match Wednesday's way owed as much to Carbooe's pace and precision as Humphreys' persistence. It was a superb, angled ball from the little Italian that sent Humphreys storming through to break his drought. although he showed composure in squeezing the shot under the body of the advanc-

Between that and Wednesday's second goal 15 minutes later, Carbone's touch deserted him. But it was back when be latched on to Niclas Alexandersson's pass on the right and flighted an inviting chip into the

middle for Humphreys. His initial header was clawed out, hut the tenacious Humphreys bad one shot blocked before following up to finally stick it away. Humphreys was also involved in Wednesday's third, meeting Andy Hinchcliffe's cross-field pass with a header to send Petter Rudi striding away to clinch it. With Rudi and Wim Jonk

field, Wednesday were cruising to the pext round, although they were rattled out of any complaceocy before half-time whee Iwan Roberts, whose shot past the post midway through the first half had been the sum of Norwich's threat, rose at the near post to glance

Neil Adams' corner into the net. It should have been a morale-boosting time to score, but the Canaries needed to strike again early in the second half if they were to put Wednesday under serious pressure.

With Des Walker controlling matters coolly at the back,

expansively in the middle of the looked unlikely and Wednesday were close to putting it beyond all doubt when Alexandersson had the ball in the net after one of the game's many offside decisions, and Watt had saved bravely at the feet of Wednesday substitute, Danny Sonner.

When Dejan Stefanovic scrambled a fourth, and his first of the season, from Hinchcliffe's corner, the score line reflected the ease of Wednesday's victory. Norwich, as close to the play-off places in the First Division as Wednesday are to the Premiership relegation zone, had not been in contention.

"We came here to try to win stroking the ball around though further slip ups always the tie," said their manager, rate he has been putting in

Bruce Rioch. "But the three deserved some reward and he main attacks Sheffield had in the first half all resulted in goals. That is a sign of the capability of Premiership players, that they punish you when you make errors and doo't defend against them."

Both Rioch and his opposite number, Danny Wilson, condemned the way that the draw for the next round had been made at half-time in this tie. But Wilson is boosted by the

arrival from the shadows of a potential match-winner for future rounds. "I thought Ritchie Humphreys was excellent today," be said. "The workgot that today. We've shown confidence in

him and he knows be's got a future at the club He's a Sheffield lad through and through and there's nothing he would like better than to do well bere."

Goals: Humphreys (18) 1-0: Humphreys (33) 2-0: Rudi (40) 3-0: Roberts (45) 3-1: Stefanovic (73) 4-1. She/flaid Wednesday [3-5-2]: Srnicek: Thome (Briscoe, 77), Walker, Stefanovic: Alexandersson, Atherton, Jonk (Sonner h-f), Rud, Hinchdiffe, Humphreys, Cartone Substitutes not used: Magilton, Morrison, Pressman (ck).

Substitutes not used: Magilton, Morrison, Pressman (gk).

Norwich Cley (4-4-2): Watt; Sutch, Jack-son, McKay (Fleming, 79). Fuglestad; Adams, L. Marshall [Jortes, 79]. Grant, Levellyn; Roberts, Eadle, Substitutes not used: A Marshall (gk), Russell, Coote. Referee: P Rejer (Leamington Spa). Booking: Norwich: Jackson

Dale's Ninian return rocks Cardiff resolve

YEOVIL TOWN have far bigger scalps than Cardiff City to their name and will feel that the only FA Cup shock at Ninian Park was that they did not emerge victorious. If this game was anything to go by, they should have few worries in the replay.

But Yeovil could so easily have avoided the inconve-Dale returned to Cardiff, the club that released him in the summer after seven seasons and 108 goals, and scored the matches, who put them to goal that had seemingly put the West Countrymen on their way to another famous victory.

However, if giant killing is Yeovil's forte then killing off sleeping giants - as Cardiff like to call themselves - does not inevitable strike came after 54 come so naturally. By the time minutes. Warren Patmore's Kevin Nugent rose to rescue Cardiff six minutes from time, Yeovil should have had the game, and their name, in the bag. Missed chances from Steve Thompson and David Piper allowed the Third Division leaders to snatch an undeserved replay.

Cardiff have been going through a rare resurgence of late, with the promise of new money arriving to drag the club out of the doldrums adding to the optimism created by a did not whether to celebrate or

By JAMOE CORRIGAN

Yeovil Town

minor upture of fortunes on the field. On this showing it looks a long journey upwards for the Welshmen. In the immediate future the journey to Huish nience. In fine cup tradition Carl Park, for the replay a week tomorrow, is arduous enough. There they will find a confident Yeovil side, unbeaten for 19 shame on Saturday.

For long periods Yeovil controlled the game, reacting to the atrocious conditions far better than their supposed superiors. It was no surprise when Dale's powerful header was cleared off the line by Graham Mitchell but only as far as Dale, who snapped in the rebound past Jon Hallworth. The capacity Cardiff crowd, who had earlier given Dale such a rousing reception, fell silent as they struggled to comprehend how

their favourite son of recent years could do such a thing. It was a strange moment for Dale, too, who later admitted he be too ecstatic having scored against Cardiff City," he said.

Ten minutes later it was only the sprawling left leg of Mark Delaney that stopped David Piper from making it two and putting it out of Cardiff's reach. But the desperate measures employed by the home side eventually paid off when Nugent's header evaded everyone, including the Swansea-born goalkeeper, Tony Pennock. In injury time Nugent almost put Cardiff through, his looping header being cleared off

the line by Kevan Brown. That would have been more than Cardiff deserved, and too cruel for Yeovil. "We thought we'd won it," said the Yeovil head coach, Colin Lippiatt. "But we have to believe that we can do it at our place."

GO II. 31, OUT piace.

Goals: Dale (54) 0-1: Nugent (84) 1-1.

Cardist City (3-5-2): Hallworth: Ford.

Mitchell. Eckhardt: Delancy. Fowler, Hill

(Legg, 67), O'Sullivan; Williams (Roberts.

57), Nugent, Müdleton. Substitutes

not used: Jarman, Thomas, Kelly (gk).

Yeord Towns (3-5-2): Pennock; Hayfield,

Brown, Cousins; Piper. Pounder (Pitman,

75), Thompson, Stott., Smith; Patmore,

Dale (Appleton, 80). Substitutes not

uted: Tomkin, Franklin, Mountain (gk).

Referere: M Pierce (Portsmouth). Referee; M Pierce (Portsmouth). Bookings: Cardiff: Nugent, Yearli

way past Birmingham commiserate. "I wanted to THE LEICESTER manager, BY PHIL ANDREWS

score of course, but I couldn't Martin O'Neill, must be a worried man after yet another impressive victory by his thriftily-assembled side. For it cannot be long before one or more of the key players responsible for their progress in the League, and now both domestic cup competitions, attract the attention of Premiership clubs who have less to show for their greater

wealth. And nobody will have made a greater impression than Emile Heskey, who performed the remarkable feat for a strik- left-sided player in the country." er of putting on a match-winning display without getting his name on the score sheet.

But he did everything else. He had one goal-bound effort kicked off the line, laid on two of his side's goals with clever little back heels into the paths of Frank Sinclair and Tony Cottee, and selflessly produced a string of crosses which would have deepeoed Birmingham's humiliation had his team's finishing been as sharp as his

Trevor Francis, the latest manager to feel the full force of his talents, said: "Heskey is getting better all the time and he is not far from his full England to expect if their own upward-

Heskey's vision clears

Leicester City Birmingham City

dehut. His partnership with Tony Cottee has really developed into something special." O'Neill agreed, "Heskey has

had a really great season for us. but his was one of a number of terrific performances," he said. Steve Guppy was also top class. He's been forgotten since he made the England B team, hut he's playing as well as any

Guppy, who was not averse to switching flanks to torment Birmingham down the right as well, underlined his manager's view with the goal of the game, a swirling right-footed shot from the angle of the penalty area into the far corner of the net.

With Roh Ullathorne matching fellow full-back Sinclair's opening goal seven minutes later, and Leicester's midfield engine room of Neil Lennon and Muzzy Izzet able to turn up the power whenever it was needed, it was an all round performance that gave Birmingham a worrying taste of what ly mohile amhitions are realised this season. The First Division side were

never in it, despite pulling a goal back through Steve Rohinson when Leicester momentarily took their foot off the throttle after establishing a two-goal

After Cottee and Guppy had restored the balance of power in the second half, Dele Adebola's last-minute strike came as no consolation at all for the Birmingham manager.

"I was aware of the gulf between First Division and Premiership before the game, but I thought our current good form would see us through," Francis said. "But today we came up against a team who work as hard as we do, and on the day the difference in quality was evident."

ity was evident."
Gooks: Sinclair (20) 1-0: Ultationne (27)
2-0: Robinson (35) 2-1; Cortee (51) 3-1;
Guppy (71) 4-1; Adebola (90) 4-2.
Leicester City 4-4-2: Keller; Sinclair,
Elliott, Taggart, Ullathorne; Campbell,
Lennon (Zagorakis, 85), Izzer, Guppy; Cortee (Marshall, 72), Heskey, Subasticutes
not used? Parker, Fennon, Arpherad (gk),
Birmingham City 4-4-2: Poole; Rowett,
Ablett, Johnson, Marsh (Grainger 1-1);
Nellowa, O'Connor, Robinson, McCarthy
(Hughes, 77); Adebola, Furlong (Forster,
63), Sobsectutes not assed: Bennett,
Purse.

Purse. Referee: U Rennie (Sheffield). Bookings: Laioester: Cottee. Man of the match: Heskey.



Game Results 2/1/99. This Saturday there ware 13 score draws:

CAROIFF	٧	YEOVIL	SHREWSBURY	٧	HALIFAX	
SOUTHAMPTON	٧	FULHAM	TOROUAY	٧	BRIGHTON	
WEST HAM	٧	SWANSEA	FALKIRK	٧	AIRDRIE	
COLCHESTER	٧	LUTON	BISHOP A	٧	SPENNYMOOR	
CHESTER	٧	SOUTHEND	EMLEY	۷	MARINE	
HARTLEPOOL	٧	CAMB'GE U	GAINSBORO'	٧	RUNCORN	
			LEIGH RMI	٧	WHITSY TOWN	

*Matchmaker Adjudicated Results for postponed matches

Away wing (1): GREENOCK MORTON v ST MIRREN. No score draws (D): NONE. Score draws (0): NONE.

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RUGBY COACH IN THE FIRING LINE P17 . ZANARDI ON A FAST TRACK P16

FA Cup: Liverpool lie in wait in the fourth-round as Ferguson's men secure their revenge over Middlesbrough Meeting

Cole fuels United comeback

BY GUY HODGSON

Manchester United Middleshrough

IF THERE were doubts about Manchester United's commitment to the FA Cup they can safely be discarded now. Yesterday they ran, they scrapped and they clung on to a place in the fourth round by naked willpower. Their reward is substantial, a home tie against Liverpool

That plum is an apt prize for yesterday's game because this was no stroll in the cold Old Trafford air. United were stretched to the limit by Middlesbrough who, when they took the lead after 50 minutes. were on course to repeat last month's win here in the Premiership, Instead, there was a rousing home comeback.

Three goals in the final 22 minutes from Andy Cole, Denis Irwin (penalty) and Ryan Giggs overwhelmed Andy Townsend's opener and gave the scoreline a unrepresentative look that became even more distorted with the help of television replays.

These showed that Neil Maddison made little or no contact with Nicky Butt when the latter earned a penalty for United's second, "The referee bought Butt's dive," was Bryan Robson, the Middlesbrough manager's reaction, while even Alex Ferguson described it as

Maddison was also adamant. "It cost us the game," he said. "I made no contact whatsoever. I said to Nicky: T can't believe you've gone down'. The linesman didn't flag. The referee was on the blind side, I don't know how he could make the decision from there."

A feature of the league encounter at Old Trafford was the physical mauling Brian Deane and Hamilton Ricard gave with some relief that Ferguson could place the fit-again Jaap Stam in the team.

The difference was stark. Whereas United's defence began nervously three weeks previously and the visitors were the epitome of calm, it was Boro yesterday who opened like they had not had time to

No.3810 Monday 4 January

ACROSS
Traditional type of horse - a 13
hard worker (S)
Result of smashing young 15

girl and teacher getting back together (6)

Pole's favoured for this fast

track promotion (5.4) Ring back when one's in, to

deliver a shrub (5)
What the Observer may do, 22
given a bill from the US?



Nicky Butt, the Manchester United midfielder, feels the weight of a tackle by Middlesbrough's Paul Gascoigne at Old Trafford yesterday

learn their lines. Ryan Giggs age was expected at any moment. Roy Keane missed a volley after 10 minutes, blazing high, but instead of heralding a sequence of chances, United suddenly were confronted by a Boro side who had sorted themselves out and the first half became a stalemate rather than a statement of intent.

of drink (10)

ity (4.4)

12 Such an alibi's ideal, designed to deny importation 25 One with 10 in Ankara goes

rorssnire (3)
15 Steps taken with sound-track of Disney's? (5)
17 Wood used with hesitation -it should make joints 12 (5)
19 Exert pressure to admit fa-

Unusual poison present -

it's all up in the air (10) Network in a muddle, as

a goal on the break. Colin Cooper launched a long pass, Deane headed on and Townsend deftly slipped the ball past Peter Schmeichel at the far post.

United had won only one of their previous eight matches, but Ferguson said he was concerned rather than worried by this setback. "The way we

to university town in Fin-land (5)
26 No longer in the charts

(3,3,3)
27 Ideal for consumers lacking

credit - convincing? (6) Forceful posh bloke's firm

DOWN Concerned with Thespian making a pile? (7) Obscure character subject

to screening, once booked

Choice of consecutive let-

ters to join up in the usual

way (8) Endeavour to identify this

writer's hero, right? (6) Where ringers are set up, and changes take place? (4-

Ignoring rules, feeling poorly when gale's blown in

(7) One's got lineages sorted

out (11)
Status granted, after arriving in a state? (11)
Disappointing failure of an
incendiary character (4,5)

Fire critic, no longer in charge? Flipping wonder-full (8)

Compassionate socialist in the family (7) Provide extravagant cate ing for the staff (7) Gets one's teeth into

recording, to make a selec-

About to squeeze in sound of a steam train? (4)

tion (6)

THE MONDAY CROSSWORD

by Esau

and Wes Brown ripped at the after half-time when the visitors around," he said, "they were at the near post. ahead they couldn't come back." His side had to get there first

and it required a goal of splendid simplicity to make the first breach in the resilient Boro right wing before turning sharply to play in Cole just beyond Gary Pallister's shoulder. The striker's pace and power

That changed five minutes spread the game and passed it did the rest, lashing the ball in

and hrought on Phil Stamp and Mikkel Beck to force the issue either way, hut to his chagrin the 82nd-minute penalty decision ensured his gamble backranks. Giggs drifted in from the : fired. "I'm checking to see if there are two moons," Ferguson said, "because we got a penalty. We never get penalties at Old Trafford."

THE PRESIDENT of the United Cricket Board of South Africa

has been forced to apologise for

a outburst aimed at the coun-

try's sports minister. Steve

Ray White issued a personal

statement at the close of the

second day's play in the fourth Test against West Indies yes-

terday after finding himself in

trouble for unscripted remarks

at the end of a speech on the

UCBSA's "transformation

In a speech broadcast live on

national television during the

tea interval, White ended what

was billed as "a pledge to the

nation" by saying: "To those

seeking to interfere with our

team, we don't want it and we

The remarks were clearly

aimed at Tshwete, who had

€ € •

charter" for the game.

Boro had to pour forward in after that session when we .a 10-minute pursuit of glory but, played nine games in 31 days." they were shredded with an incisive and devastatingly quick break from Giggs. The Welshman exchanged a one-two with Ole Gunnar Solskjaer and then slipped the ball through the ad-

vancing Schwarzer's legs. "Our concentration was excellent today," Ferguson said. "I think we have our breath back

S Africa chief 'sorry'

of giants for Old **Trafford** By Damian Spellman MANCHESTER UNITED jumped out of the frying pan and into the

fire when victory over Middlesbrough handed them an FA Cup fourth round tie with their arch-rivals Liverpool

United's manager, Alex Ferguson, savoured the prospect of a Cup clash of the giants. "It's a belter, it's fantastic," he said. There are some terrific ties in the next round, but Manchester United v Liverpool is always a big game.

Liverpool's England striker Michael Owen, who opened the scoring in his side's comfortable 3-0 victory at Port Vale yesterday from the penalty spot, said: "I don't think you can get much tougher than that.

"It's a difficult draw for us, especially being away from home. We thought this was a reasonably tough game, but the next round is a massive game. It's a great tie. Manchester United are a great side flying high in the league." Portsmouth, who put out the

Premiership strugglers Nottingham Forest at the City Ground, face a wait to see whether they will face top-flight or non-League opposition.

Pompey drew either Leeds United or the Football Conference side Rushden & Diamonds, who played a 0-0 draw at Nene Park with David O'Leary's side hanging on after having the defender Jonathon Woodgate sent off.

Portsmouth's striker Steve Claridge, who scored the only goal at Forest, was gearing up for a major day at Fratton Park. I think it will more than likely be Leeds," he said. "It's a difficult tie, but we're at home and it sau we can ask, it's a mas sive boost for the boardroom as well - it means we'll get paid next month, which is handy!"

Newcastle's 10-man heroics against Crystal Palace set up a home tie with Bradford City, who currently stand fourth in the First Division and secured their place in the hat with a 2-1 home win over Grimsby.

Newcastle's manager, Rund Gullit, said: "As in any cup competition, it's vital to come out of the hat first. Our match against Crystal Palace showed just how important our magnificent supporters are.

"Bradford City are having a good season in the First Division, so we shall afford them

every respect."
Wimbledon face a London derby against Tottenham. The tie will be a dress rehearsal for the Worthington Cup semi-final, the first leg of which is scheduled to take place four days later.

after Test outburst

in Cape Town

of black players in the nation-

CRICKET

BY PAUL SHORT

Tshwete was quoted in yesterday's South African newspapers underlining his concerns. "I am worried we will be sending white teams to the rugby and cricket World Cups this year," be said. "If that is the case, it will be difficult for me to support them."

White's comments angered fellow members of the multiracial transformation committee which has been set up to hasten change.

In his later statement, White said: "I wish to apologise to the cricket community of South Africa for allowing my personal remarks to be associated with previously criticised the lack the important pledge to the formation Charter that has been developed by so many people over such a long period of time. "I would like to emphasise

Irwin (pen 81) 2-1; Giggs (90) 3-1.

not used: Cruyff, Van der Gouw (gt). Milddiestrough (3-5-2): Schwarzer Coop er, Maddison, Pallister; Pleming, Musto (Stamp, 61). Gescolgne (Beck, 74), Townsend Gordon: Deane, Ricard, Sebastituses not used: Sockdale, Blackmore, Benesford (gk)

Referee: G Barber (Tring). Booking: Middlesbrough:

Man of the match: Cole.

that neither I nor the UCB wish to confront the government or any other sporting organisation but rather believe that the problems facing us are best solved by consultation and communication." South Africa chose the Cape

coloured players Herschelle Gibbs and Paul Adams for the fourth Test but Tshwete is unhappy that more African players have not made the breakthrough. Wasim Akram, who is in-

volved in an inquiry into alleged corruption in Pakistan cricket, is to captain his country on their tour of India and in this summer's World Cup in England. England in a spin, page 20

FOURTH-ROUND DRAW

Wolves v Preston or Arsenal Bristol Rovers v Leyton Orient Wrexham v Huddersfield Portsmouth v Rushden or Leeds Oxford Utd v Chelsea Sheffield Utd or Notts County v Swindon or Barnsley v Bournemouth

Newcastle Utd v Bradford City Leicester City v Coventry City Aston Villa v Southampton or Blackburn Rovers v Sunderland

West Ham or Swansea v Derby Manchester Utd v Liverpool Wimbledon v Tottenham Everton v loswich Ties to be played 23 or 24 Januari

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NDENT

rough eting giants Old afford *

IAN SPELLMAN

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DRAW inesday v Stockpart ston or Arsenal s a Leyton Orient uddersfield Rushden or Leeds Chelsea

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wers v Sunderland Swansea v Derby Jid v Liverpool Tottenham ged 23 or 24 Januar-

Southampton of

Boat Show. st chandlery





The ad man's new pitch

Footballers flogging Horlicks, athletes selling underwear – sport is scoring more than sex in the advertising game

early June 1998, just before the World Cup, three major British institutions were reshuffled: the Shadow Cabinet, the Spice Girls and the England football team. It was reverse order in the media coverage, however because the England team choice involved the Sacking of Gazza, Gazza's Drunken Binge, the Tears-of-a-Clown Gazza and the End of Gazza, which meant that the media - at every class level - gave it acres of space and miles of analysis. The previous week, The Times had run a televisionadvertised, front-page exclusive interview feature: "Danny Baker, The Gazza Interview", Danny Baker and Gazza in The Times. That was bow far it had gone ... sports marketing.

Over the last 10 years, British sport has caught up with the notion of sports and sports stars as electronic intellectual property rights, walking sandwichboards, celebrity endorsers, guarantors of media crossover, the province of the accountant and the marketeer. It is a big husiness. It's an American idea of course, rooted in the conjunction of national network TV, pay-per-view big football and big sports agents like Mark McCormack, the man who made Arnold Palmer a multi-millionaire way back when. And the financial core of it, for the stars, the clubs and the agents was advertiser-supported media. That was how all the money came sloshing in - the bundreds of millions of dollars from the official sponsors, and the incredibly expensive ad-breaks in the

I watch at least three hours of television advertising at a stretch every week on a dedicated tape. I've written about advertising in the Independent on Sunday for the last four and a half years. Over that period - what we might call the Nick Hornby era- I've seen the growth of sports marketing. through the Atlanta Olympics and the European Cup into the mad crescendo of the World Cup. As I write, at least one hour of this week's new advertising tape is taken up with sports-related advertising. It's the

dominant single theme. As far as advertising is concerned, sport is the new rock 'n' roll. And, like rock 'n' roll's transformation into the music industry, sport has been hugely professionalised, organised and mainstreamed to yield points of access and commercial exploita-

etters

tion just about everywhere, in every superstore, with their football teams more than their wives, families every kind and condition of person.

Advertising uses sports themes and sports people to sell practically anything now - and some of the connections look extremely tenuous. So for instance Horlicks, the valetudinarian night-time drink, recently launched a new campaign, with all the usual womanly bedtime themes, that ended dramatically with the footballer Les Ferdinand taking his clothes off. Horlicks is just one of a range of advertisers with absolutely no previously visible connection with sport, fitness, men or youth that had suddenly seen a new angle: spoof sex.

Sports stars are extremely versatile - and there are so many of them to choose from, with such constant visibility. It makes sense, as they're mainly extremely famous, fit, good-looking ("uglies" get rooted out unless they are "characters") young people with practically no cultural baggage what-soever (except the loyalties attached to their teams and countries), who seem prepared to do absolutely anything.

Young sports stars have risen without trace to form the infantry of B and C list celebrities, along with TV soap stars, weather-girls and second-rank musicians. If young women can see sports stars as sex objects, then grannies can think of conspicuously "nice" stars, like footballer Gary Lineker, as grandsons; young men can see them as their idealised peer groups; early teens can see them as parents or older siblings - and you can perm it any other which way.

But the groups that most obviously idolise sports stars - and footballers in particular - are advertising creatives and their clients. Creative folk in British advertising pride themselves on their populist grasp of culture, their feeling for the great laddish themes of music, humour and sport. They are youthful themes with huge prestige in London's Soho, hub of the advertising industry, where every creative imagines himself as a cross between Damien Hirst and James Brown (the former editor of Loaded magazine).

Sport has been made class-safe and aesthetically OK by the labours of a whole generation of middleclass pioneers, from Brian Glanville through to author Nick Hornby. Hornby made it all possible for short, unathletic, introverted middle-class "boys" (well into their thirties) who wanted to identify with

Obituaries

or jobs. That top young sports folk now wear Gucci and Prada labels, rather than Top Man, certainly belped improve sport's image for a style-conscious audience.

Loaded, the magazine for superannuated lads which launched in 1993, helped too. It recruited an astonishing number of readers that no one in the magazine trade had even realised were there to a diet of glossy populism that seemed football-driven, like its launch editor James Brown. Loaded covered popular sports, popular people, the lifestyle and drink. It had famous "babes" taking their clothes off, rather than "relationships". It assimilated sport - and new sports people - into its own version of Cool Britannia.

BY PETER YORK

By happy coincidence for advertising men, who like to feel that they are at the leading edge, sport, music and "street-style" have grown increasingly close over the last 10 years, united by the increasing dominance of black American dance music. This music, with its athleticism, its sport references, its dress code and, especially, its footwear codes, created an easy set of reference points which no advertiser or agency could ignore. If you wanted to add youth and vitality to almost any situation, sport and sports stars were the answer.

The massive growth in the sports shoe market has driven everything in sports marketing over the last decade. The real battle in the 1998 World Cup, according to the aficionados, was the fight between Nike and Adidas for the soul of the world's soccerloving youth. A global, high-growth, high-margin tashion husiness like training shoes means huge advertising ratios and buge spends. Analysts reckon the main brands spent easily more than \$1bn on advertising and sponsorship last year. And that is cultural influence at scale.

They've chosen to use it; sports shoe advertising has been some of the most consistently visible work, with the clearest creative and cultural agenda you could hope to find. The sports shoe brands are selling very powerful dreams - of escape, selfrealisation and peer group admiration - to children nervous system, knew how they thought and felt,

and young people. The agenda is to identify the major brands with relevant sports heroes, street style and music, in that order, and to make every pair into a message of hope.

If sports shoe advertising has forced the pace for sports marketing, then Nike has historically driven its sector. Nike is a story in itself (and they know it; it's the story they tell in their American themepark shops, the Nike Towns). Nike comes from Portland, Oregon, the 1960s invention of a former university track sports star. And so too does its lead advertising agency, Wieden & Kennedy. One of the world's more influential marketeers has foregone Madison Avenue - even Chicago - for a small agency which has grown in a lop-sided way to Amsterdam and London, both European "capitals of cool". And the Nike output - initially all those basketball stars. tall, black and reaching for the skies - sent a new version of the classic American message. From Samuel Smiles through to Anybody Can Do Anything, they would be saying "Just do it". Nike added the behavioural therapist's language and the un-

mistakable Nike tick (or "swoosh"). Just do what? said the critics (and during the early 1990s period of gangsta rap, ghetto muggings and murders over new training shoes, they said a whole lot more about that message). But the kids needed no translation and no excuses. With Nike you could walk as tall as you liked; with Nike the kid from the wrong side of tracks could triumph and be cheered to the echo by friends in that freeze-frame moment of triumph.

It was a message that echoed precisely what the big young-audience films of the 1980s - from Top Gun to Flashdance - had been saying.

If the sports shoe advertisers had clear objectives. a clear target market and a familiar set of messages in line with the "big picture" messages of the 1980s - and 1980s America in particular - nonetheless they developed a distinctive way of expressing them. Their agencies created advertising that looked and sounded different, and was very strongly branded in every frame, in every poster, in every magazine treatment. They created the very essence of sports

hip, together with a celebration of the body. Nike advertising is confident and distinctive because it appears to have been conceived by people who had been inside their target market's central

12 Radio

and could relate to it. So Nike advertising dispenses with laborious explanation, obvious devices and testimonials to concentrate on catching the feelings and the moments that matter. Nike advertising is transparent to the people it is aimed at - and often utterly opaque to those outside the target market.

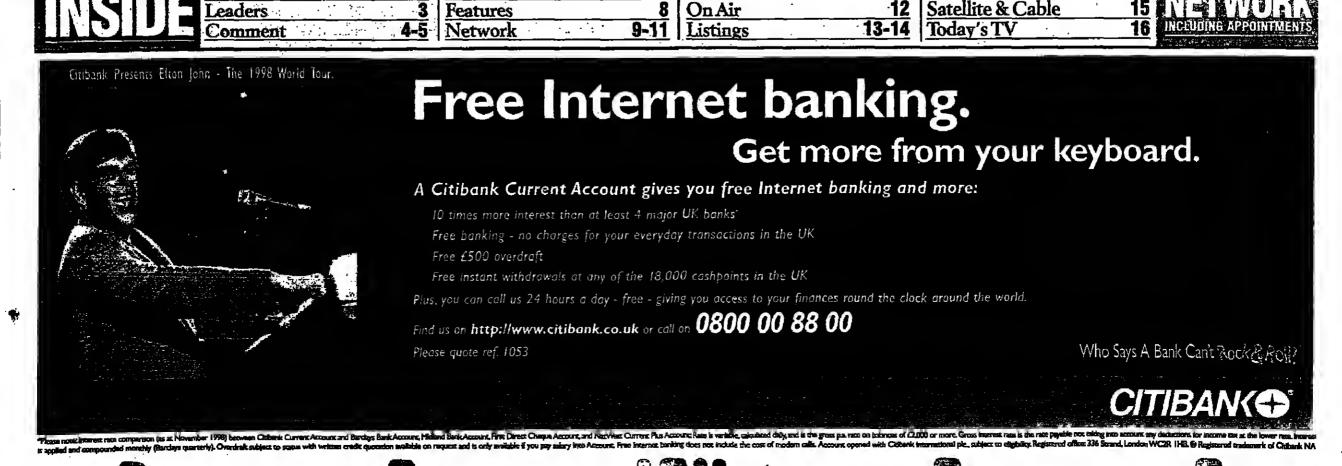
Nike utterly dominated its sector until the early 1990s. It took the advertising initiatives with astonishing ease because it is, in marketeers' jargon, an extremely focused hrand with a very strong and consistent vision and personality. Nike is one of a small number of major new companies whose main assets are their brands and the relationships they command through marketing, rather than technologies or conventional skills.

But in the early 1990s Robert Louis-Dreyfus, the entrepreneurial former chairman of Saatchi and Saatchi, moved to part-own and run Adidas, the world soccer-boot market leader, and utterly transformed the brand and its fortunes. Along the way he built a strong relationship with a much admired "creative" London advertising agency, Leagas De-laney, who in turn developed an Adidas style, different from the Nike personality, but equally distinctive. Adidas' approach, while equally optimistic, substituted ideas and eclecticism for simple affirmation, aiming to be that bit cleverer and more authentic. The old, simple Adidas shoes were revived as the "real thing" for connoisseurs tired of Nike's neon overkill in its product design. And Adidas positioned itself closer to the product and its attributes and rather less as a hrand celebrating itself

But the story is much higger than sports shoe brands - huge and influential as they are, sports themes get absolutely everywhere. Possibly the least interesting area of sports advertising is the real thing; advertising for real dedicated sports equip-

ment and for real live sports events spectators. Many sports equipment markets are growing fast and big events are getting bigger, but the advertising for them is out-spent and out-sbone by the unreal thing - advertising for the most undedicated goods and services you can think of and advertising for media coverage of events. The staple real equipment advertising on, say, the Eurosport cable TV channel tends to he pretty pedestrian and traditional.

Continued on page 8



NHS under strain

Sir. This week British hospitals will be groaning with medical patients. Paradoxically, the problem is not that too many have been admitted, it is that too few have been discharged.

Admitting a patient is easy, but discharging a patient is often quite difficult. Discharge involves making the correct diagnosis after relevant investigations, assessing response to treatment, and organising social and medical follow-up.

From 5pm on 24 December until 9am on 4 January, NHS hospitals in England and Wales will have had 232 hours of medical "on call" cover, but only 24 hours of "normal" working - 9am to 5pm last Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Whilst medical "on call" cover is usually excellent for life-threatening emergencies, it does almost nothing to achieve the discharge of more routine admissions. This is because each "on call" junior doctor is not only covering his or her own patients, but also those of four other junior doctors. Routine investigations - X-ray, endoscopy, ultrasound etc - are unavailable when "on call".

On Monday 4 January, medical firms will reassemble to find their patients spread across all medical wards, as well as in surgical and gynaecological beds. There will be such a backlog of work that there will be delays for almost all investigations; social workers will have closed their casebooks etc. It may take weeks to get back to normal.

What can be done? Firstly, NHS hospitals must maintain a full service in all areas of the hospital from 8am to 8pm every day of the year. Secondly, medical firms must be based on a hospital's geographical areas, so that the "on call" doctor has a clear idea of the patients who are under his or her care.

Let's get ready for the millennium; whatever is difficult this year will be much worse in a year's time. Reorganising emergency medicine in the NHS would be an excellent way of celebrating the event. ROY POUNDER (Professor of Medicine Royal Free Hospital, London)

Richmond, Surrey

Sir. I agree wholeheartedly with Simon Ellis (letter, 29 December) that ageism is prevalent within the NHS and that access to tests and treatment should be on the grounds of demonstrable benefit and not an arbitrary age cut-off. However, his assertion that geriatrics is a "means for rationing care to the elderly" is an inversion of the truth.

In reality, frail older patients, with multiple medical problems and their need for complex discharge planning and rehabilitation, require advocacy and expertise which is provided by geriatricians. These needs have historically been neglected by single "organ specialities", which tend to promote the study of rare conditions in younger adults and neglect the commonplace needs of the old.

This medical ageism is mirrored in nursing, where staff are drawn to hightech specialities, and in the media, where often futile, costly cases involving children are dramatised, whilst rare mention is made of disability, degenerative disease or preventative medicine.

Geriatrics aims to respect older patients' autonomy in getting them back to their own homes and ensuring that genuine medical problems are not written offas "old age". Our received national, media and medical values do not. Dr DAVID OLIVER Consultant physician Sevenoaks, Kent

The future for Iraq

Sir. The correspondence in your columns following the bombing of Iraq seems to show a consensus on two points. The sale of arms to Iraq should remain illegal, but all other sanctions should cease.

And a humane way must be found to help the Iraqi people's development, without enriching their government or ceasing to monitor their "weapons of mass destruction".

Fifty years ago, in the aftermath of the Second World War, most of our European countries were in ruins, governments were facing bankruptcy and millions of people were suffering from undernourishment and poverty.

The United States offered each country a chance to participate in a "European Recovery Program", which became known as the Marshall Plan. This laid the foundations of Western Europe's current economic prosperity.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Post letters to Letters to the Editor. The Independent, 1 Canada Square, London E14 5DL and include a daytime telephone number, fax to 0171 293 2056 or e-mail to letters@independent.co.uk. E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity



Welsh Portraits No 1: Miners from the Tower colliery in Hirwaun, near the Brecon Beacons. While the pits all around them were closing, the miners here bought the mine for themselves and carried on as a collective

Now we Europeans are comparatively prosperous and the Middle Eastern region is in a situation comparable to ours 50 years ago. Should not the United Kingdom therefore propose to the European Union that, together with the United States, Israel and the richer Arab states, we offer a "Middle East Recovery Programme", at least to Lebanon, Syria.

Jordan, Iraq and Iran? Such an offer would add to the budgetary strains the processes of enlargement and internal restructuring are imposing on the EU but, if administered by the United Nations, it might provide the world with an aim that would unite Christian and Muslim, Jew and Arab, the United States, Russia and China in a common effort. ROBIN EVANS

Sir: Alan MacColl wrote (letter,

have been 'British' before the

30 December) asking, "In what sense

answer: Y Brythoniaid - the original

Celtic British who gave their name to

name used by Julius Caesar and used

universally ever since to describe the

I write as a descendant of these

vouchsafed to us, oddly and

inaccurately called "Wales" -

original British from the small patch

our island at least 2,000 years ago, a

can anyone in the last 1,000 years

[Anglo-Scottish] Union of 1707?"

There is an accurate historical

Worcester

A question of duty

Sir: Further to the duty-free bonanza (letter, 28 December), although bringing our duty rates into line with other EU countries would reduce duty revenue, there would be other. compensating factors.

On the vast quantities of duty-free liquor and tobacco that are currently coming across the Channel, our government would at least be collecting some duty.

The British retailer would then have the benefit of those sales, which would increase his taxable profits.

We would not have to pay Customs and Excise officers to follow these goods around the country to make sure that they are not being resold. Here on the Isle of Wight we have

derived from the Tentonic term

Sir. Having read the letters from

David Bate and John Anderson (2

January), I wonder if the time has

arrived to discontinue or reform the

or Officer of the Order of the British

Empire-there is no British Empire.

honours and introduce one simple

Community". This would be open to

honour called "Service to the

I for one would abolish all these

system of honours. One example: OBE

for "foreigner". Tut, tut.

STCHARLESCBE

Tenby, Pembrokeshire

been very aware for some years now that our holiday trade is also being adversely affected by cross-Channel trafficking.

Many people have realised that they can cross the Channel more cheaply than they can cross the Solent and go home with a boot full of duty-frees, which pays for the trip.

It is better to encourage people to spend their money in the UK rather than abroad. ADRIAN LEATH Arreton, Isle of Wight

Hong Kong observer

everybody regardless of class or

Sir: It is sad that Susan Wathin

(letter, 1 January) joins the sport of

timetable inquiries, unfairly. I used

the service twice over Christmas and

wrong to blame it if it is disrupted by

extreme weather in Scotland, where

knocking the railway companies'

it was prompt and efficient. It is

people would look at the

instead of contempt.

DAYID WILDING

Bridge, Kent

profession. I believe the majority of

recipients with pride and admiration

Sir. Your entry for me in the rogues' gallery of editors who have lost their jobs in London (Media, 29 December) says I "resigned" from The Observer "as sales continued to slide."

l didn't resign: as I have made clear in the past, I was "replaced" - to use Hugo Young's gentlemanly term - when the Scott Trust, which he chaired, agreed to Peter Preston becoming editor-in-chief of The Guardian and The Observer and decided to appoint a new editor for the

Sunday paper. Nor did sales continue to slide. They were in serious decline when I became editor of The Observer in June 1993 and were forecast to slump to 450,000 by Christmas.

By the first six months of 1994, we had pushed them back above half a million, and hit 520,000 in October-November just before the Scott Trust axe fell on me. JONATHAN FENBY Editor

South China Morning Post Hong Kong

the service is located. The weather

Sir: We have now experienced the

finest festive entertainment our five

there anybody out there who would

have begrudged an hour devoted

without electricity for days.

TV channels could muster. Is

celebration? Certainly not in

our non-religious household.

JANET VAUGHAN-JONES

to traditional Christian

HARRY STOPES-ROE

Birmingham '

Shrewsbury

was so bad it left thousands of people

I'm no tween

Sir: I am writing to say that the article on children becoming teenagers at the age of 10 (report, 31 December) is completely out of order. I am a 12-year-old girl and I don't like to be talked about as someone who follows the crowd and is not capable of thinking for herself.

To me it doesn't seem that you have done nearly enough research about the lives of typical 10-, 11- and 12-year-olds. For example, in my opinion no one of my age would ever even think about Richard Branson, Also, Leonardo DiCaprio is good looking but I wouldn't make a fuss about him just because some of my friends do.

I follow fashion but I wouldn't wear anything I didn't like myself. I wear fashionable clothes only if and when I like them. So it doesn't sound as if Γ m under peer pressure, does it?

I like EastEnders and so do many of my friends, but it doesn't mean that I sit down every Sunday lunchtime with a tray on my knee to watch it. In fact, I always sit down to eat my meal with my family, unless I am going out. So what if I have access to a

computer? It does not mean I am using it the whole time, because my mum works on it and, in any case, I have other things to do.

I also do not like the way you categorise 10-, 11-, and 12-year-olds as something called "tweens". We do not want to be known as something other than our names, because we are all individual people. You seem to be saying that we should be seen as a separate group, different from everyone else.

Perhaps next time you wish to write about my age group, you could consult us first to get your facts straight. LUCY BAINBRIDGE Epsom, Surrey

Something in the water

Sir: In calling for a change in the law ("Suppliers call for fluoride in water", 24 December), Water UK will be virtually guaranteeing nation-wide fluoridation as health authorities have decided in favour of fluoridation when their consultation processes have shown overwhelming public opposition to it.

Since it is not Water UK's place to make water consumers ill, perhaps their chief executive will tell us how the water companies will cater for the needs of those of us whose health is adversely affected by fluoride and who, therefore, have to avoid fluoridated water and foods manufactured with it (as well, of course, as avoiding items naturally high in fluoride such as tea, fish and fluoride toothpastes).

After all, we too pay for a potable water supply, safe to drink and bathe in. I have not yet bad a satisfactory reply from Health Minister Tessa Jowell to this question.

In their seeming rush to inflict . compulsory fluoride on the nation via fluoridation, why have not the Government and Water UK taken any otice of the British Dental Jo paper on the hazards of fluoride ingestion - in that instance from fluoride toothpaste - calling for a "risk-benefit strategy" which "minimises the amount of fluoride ingested and maximises the concentration of fluoride delivered to the oral environment"?

If all water is fluoridated and we can only rinse and spit but not swallow, what is everyone supposed to drink? Beware, Water UK and Tessa Jowell, the specious arguments of the fluoridationists. Dr JENNY DUCKWORTH Pilning, South Gloucestershire

Till the pips squeak

Sir. The idea of allowing employees to choose their own dates for their public holidays (letter, 2 January) does not mean that they will be able to take them when they want them. More and more employees are finding it increasingly difficult to take their normal leave when they would most like to do so, and are also liable to be penalised if they wish to "carry over" any unused days.

I work for one of the largest employers in the UK and we have had some of our traditional holidays turned into what are now called "privilege days" and added to our annual leave. Most of us assume the name was arrived at because we are privileged if we can take the days off applied for. I seem to remember that the computer age was going to see an increase in people's leisure time but it seems that today's employers see it as a tool to squeeze every last second of every last day from people. MARKBENTLEY High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire

A good year for Slobodan, but Tony takes the biscuit

IN BRIEF

AT THE start of every year it is customary to bring you the most popular boy's and girl's names of the previous years. This is usually done by looking at the names of boys and girls in the "Births" columns, but as regular readers of this column will know, I prefer to consult the headlines to see which

the really popular names are. So whereas you may get the impression from other papers that the popular names are John and James, or Sophie and Lucy, a quick look at the papers will show you that such names are, in fact, extremely rare – among important people, at least. Indeed, some names that occur in headlines never occur in daily life at all - names like Sting and Madonna, and Scary and Boy. (These last are the first names of Ms Spice and Mr George respectively.)

One of the odd things about first names as found in the beadlines is the speed with which they go in and out of fashion. One year the most common first name was Mr. It has never reoccurred. This was entirely due to the popularity that year of TV dramatisations of Jane Austen's novels, and all her heroes had the first name Mr (Mr Darcy etc). Last year the outright winner of boy's names was Dodi.

whole place.

This year it does not even figure in the top 100. Another curiosity is the way in which politicians and leaders are rarely known by their first name. John Major was never called John by headline writers. Clinton is always Clinton, rarely Bill. That is wby the name Bill does not figure in our top ten boy's names, even though the most important man in

the world bears it. Even at the level of football management this is brue. Glenn Hoddle would be recognisable if called Glenn, as there are very few Glenns in football, but be is always called Hoddle in print, never Glenn.

However, let us get straight to the main agenda of today's ceremony, and that is the grand announcement of the top 10 boy's names of 1998. Roll of drums. Fanfare. Thank you.

(Previous year's position in brackets, incidentally.)

 Tony (11) Charles Leonardo (-) Saddam (-) Zinedine (-) 6. Slobodan Peter 8. Oskar



KINGTON Last year the outright

winner was Dodi. This year it does not even figure in the top 100

10. Helmut Tony's popularity is entirely due to Mr Blair's sudden rise to springheeled prominence. There are other Tonys around, such as Tony Banks, but they rarely feature.

Indeed, it would seem from a study of political first names that it is no help to ambition to have the same first name as a rival, or as your leader. Nobody called Margaret throve near Mrs Thatcher. John Redwood dwindled before John Major. And the only Edward near Edward Heath was Edward du Cann, and look what happened to him. No, we fear that Tony Banks's ambitions will have to be

Leonardo has never featured in the list before, so well done, Mr di Csprio. Obviously the name Leonardo is a bit too Italian for the American sudience, so already Mr di Caprio's first name is being

put on hold.

shortened by the publicists to Lenny or even Leo, and we may never see Leonardo on the top 10 list again.

think that di Caprio was named after a mutant turtle called Leonardo, as they have never heard of the artist Leonardo da Vinci. (Incidentally, in the credits of an

old Sergeant Bilko film the other day I spotted that the name of the director was a certain Al di Caprio. Any relation, I wonder?) Zinedine is an even more un-

usual name than Slobodan, and would not figure here were it not for Mr Zidane's goal-scoring feats for France against Brazil in the World Cup final, in which be became the first person in history to become famous despite having both names beginning with Z.

Other names which flared into brief popularity were Salman and Yasser, Benjamin and Gerhard. Arsene and Menzies, and - very briefly - Enoch, after the publica-Most Americans, of course. tion of a life of the late Enoch Powell. Fergal was quite popular, as indeed was Fergie, which interestingly is a boy's name when used of football managers and a girl's name when used of duchesses. Ron was fleetingly fashionable for a week when a Welshman strayed on Clapham Common and George became fashionable when a pop star strayed in a Californian lavatory.

• . • <u>. .</u> -

Tomorrow we come to the top 10 girl's names of 1998, the first year for many years in which Diana has not won outright. Or can she do it again posthumously? All will be revealed tomogrow!

inds do. ion but I wouldn't was It like myself I wear thes only if and when doesn't sound as if I'm ssure, does jt? nders and so do many it doesn't mean that is nday lunchtime with; e to watch it. in fact | a to eat my meal within am going out. nave access to a oes not mean I am usus ie, because my mum

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THE MONDAY REVIEW The Independent 4 January 1999

THE INDEPENDENT

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The social costs and personal benefits of working on holidays

WE CAN all sympathise with Church pronouncements that we work too hard. Yesterday Roman Catholic Cardinal Basil Hume, and the new Anglican Bishop of Liverpool, James Jones, lamented the number of people working over Christmas. They argued that quality of family and communal life should not be sacrificed to make way for the long hours Britons increasingly devote to the workplace.

They are right to be concerned. We have all been long promised that automation would bring shorter working hours and less stressful working environments. In practice, this has not worked out. Hours of work have risen; overtime and weekend working are more prevalent than ever before. Britons work harder than any other Euro-

Cardinal Hume and Bishop Jones are right that there is more to life than work. Social needs have also to be satisfied, and there are all too many signs that this is not so. The number of divorces, the prevalence of single parenthood, and general sense of civic malaise that they divine is no illusion.

It is not really enough to argue that the world economy demands that we work harder and harder: we have to work harder for something, strive towards some goal, or work can become meaningless.

The problem with the hishops' argument is these issues are separate ones: they cannot always be run together, and given one cause labelled "too much work". Each separate problem they outline has its own causes, and possible solutions.

There are many reasons why families break up. There is no single truth as to why families disintegrate. It is a debate which will engage sociologists and anthropologists well into the next millennium. All we can argue with certainty is that such vast changes are not simply due to people working harder.

The exploitation of workers is a more specific issue, demanding different solutions. Primarily, this means legislation. There are, rightly, laws - many of them campaigned for by the churches - to prevent people being worked to exhaustion. They have recently been strengthened by the adoption of the 48-hour working week. No one should have to work longer than they feel they can, a point the bishops do well to reinforce.

They have a point, too, when it comes to public holidays. We will lose something, some sense of shared time, place and identity, if our national holidays lose their meaning. These holidays should remain special. Those who wish to work should still be able to. But the right to those holidays should be retained:



equivalent of Bastille Day in France, or Independence Day in the US. No such shared experience will be effective unless people believe in it. A multicultural society, increasingly exposed to world media and global culture. inevitably reinforces this process. This does not mean that time off is irrelevant, but simply that it is harder to get everyone to agree on the time when we should share that moment.

From the rhetoric of church and husiness leaders, one would think that social and economic needs were incompatible. This need not be so. Working longer hours is not necessarily an indication of avarice: it usually springs from the oldest and most laudable moral urge: to protect and nurture one's family.

Nor is offering employment over holidays wrong: it gives opportunities to those who desire more flexibility in when they go to work. The challenge is to find the right balance All the same, httle good will come from attempting to between those moral aims, and the right to a personal file, impose a sense of national identity. There is no British which can sustain civic duty.

A bigger truncheon for the world's policeman

PRESIDENT CLINTON'S declared intent to pump more money into the American military is more significant than suggested by the political comment it has attracted. Mr Clinton is indeed a master of "triangulation", the art of political horse trading and stealing opponents' political clothes. With the Senate about to begin considering his alleged "high crimes and misdemeanours", more military spending constitutes a gesture to the Republican Party in Congress that it can still do business with him.

But Mr Clinton's announcement is more important for what it tells us about the US. It ensures that American personnel will be stationed around the globe, enforcing the pax Americana, long after this president's sexual inndelines are consigned to the history books.

The money being offered is on a grand scale; it might amount to \$100bn (£61bn) over a decade. This means that the 250,000 American service personnel currently stationed outside the US itself will not have to be withdrawn. But it also allows the US military to maintain its "stealth" capabilities, with which it can bombard most nations without taking casualties in return.

Such self-confident assertion is impressive, especially for a nation already spending more per capita than Europeans on defence. A nation has not been so dominant since the last days of the par Britannica preceding the First World War. But no credible threat is on the American horizon. The Japanese economic danger that panicked Americans in the 1980s has dissipated; Russia is in chaos; China seems more interested in domestic economic reform.

Mr Clinton's local difficulties should not blind us to the reality that he still leads the only nation in the world with power to shape our destinies. One thing is certain for the coming century: American power will be pre-eminent.

If Blair were to dare it, he could win a euro referendum this year

THIS YEAR, New Labour, the most formidable of electoral machines, faces several tests at the hands of the voters. For the first time since Tony Blair became leader its prospects look rather bleak. This has little to do with its current standing which continues to break all records, nor with signs of a Tory recovery of which there are few. Nonetheless every time voters head for a ballot hox in 1999, and some of diem will be rolling often, it is the Tories who are likely to receive a boost and Labour left licking its wounds.

Most of these journeys to polling stations will testify to the pluralism of the supposed control freaks in Downing Street. The Tories will be brought to life again in Scotland in a parliament which will be elected under a form of proportional representation. No Tories as a dead parrot north of the border. Courtesy of a Labour government the deceased bird will be partially exhumed.

The European elections, contested also under a form of electoral reform which Hague fiercely opposed, will produce gains for the Tories and possibly heavy losses for Labour Indeed leading "first past the posters" in the Government are citing already the Euro elections as their moment of vindication. "Enough of these masochistic changes to the voting system," they will declare, rubbing their hands with guilty giee as the seats tumble. The Euro elections were last contested in 1994, when the Tories were in disarray and before Blair started to cast his spell. Indeed, the last time they were held. Margaret Beckett, a great first

THE FOUNDATION of the euro

this weekend is a magnificent,

historic achievement. And the

chances are that the euro will

work well. There are risks in

monetary union, but there are

no less dramatic risks in doing

nothing, the status quo of float-

ing exchange rates and violent

capital flows is hardly stable.

launched at a judicious mo-

ment. The tragedy is that, once

again, the British political and media establishment have

The euro is a good idea

past the poster, was leader of the party In this May's local elections, the Tories can only move upwards. One

of the few benefits for them of baving been virtually annihilated in 1994, is that subsequent gains can be portrayed in a triumphant light.

So, by mid summer Hague will have a slightly more stable perch on which to cling. The Tories will look a little healthier and Labour less robust after the succession of midden in elec-

Admittedly it would be bizarre if such a prospect did not await a government coming up to the half-way point in the electoral cycle. At this equivalent stage, after the 1979 election, Labour under the recently elected Michael Foot was miles ahead of the Tory government in the polls. Even so a governing party worded about he ing popularity, especially when it has enjoyed consistent poll leads and when a rapport with voters is part of

its raison d'étre. There is, though, one poll which could be held this year or next with the potential to propel the Government into even more stratospheric levels of popularity. Consider the political rewards for the government of a referendum on a single currency. Just as William Hague was declaring that the Tories were on their way again, with evidence from the mid summer elections clutched triumphantly to his bosom, their precerious unity would

be blown apart. The perception of Britain being on the sidelines plus a dazzling coalition in support of entry would defeat with relative ease a parochial campaign led ever circumstances, signing up be-

made sure Britain is not in a

vital European project at the

GOVERNMENT MINISTERS

have repeatedly assured us

that we will not join the single

currency without a referen-

dum. They know that the

British people are against giv-

ing up the pound, and the sov-

ereignty that goes with it. Yet



RICHARDS

Every time voters head for a ballot box in 1999, it is the Tories who are likely to receive a boost

by the all denoting Store. On the one side

Hague, John Redwood, Bill Cash; on the other Blair, his entire cabinet, most Labour MPs, Ashdown and most of his party, Clarke, Heseltine, Howe, prominent trade unionists such as John Monks (whose New Year message bemoaned our absence from the currency), Adair Turner from the CBI and many other prominent businessmen. Compared with a referendum on electoral reform, which looks increasingly remote in the post-Mandelson landscape, such a campaign would be a piece of cake.

As a bonus, these strategic calculations would be based on the correct conclusion: the longer Britain is on the sidelines the more it risks a re-run of the ERM saga, entering at the wrong time economically but when, for what-

comes politically possible. ERM entry said nothing especially new. The decellor, finally persuaded Margaret Thatcher that the time was right Britain entered at the wrong time, at the wrong level and for the wrong reasons, With EMU, Britain will join after the election is safely out of the way and when it appears as close as certain that a referendum is winnable, irrespective of the economic case for

white golder Of course in many quarters an EMU referendum is not viewed in such a glowing light. A potentially suicidal risk is the more common perception in the upper echelons of the Government. Polis are ambiguous. The focus groups are still sceptical. The press has not been squared Rightly they recognise that defeat for the Government would be lated and Britain's chances of joining EMU

would be set back for a decade at least. But a referendum is always a risk I doubt if anyone would be able to predict the outcome of an EMU poll in the honeymoon of a second term with any certainty. The case for a referendum before the election is as strong as the arguments deployed in favour of delay.

Yet, apparently the option has been ruled out. When Gordon Brown made his "historic" statement in the Commons in November 1997, stating that entry was not economically viable this side of the election, it was presented as an important step towards EMU. (Spin doctors suggested to the Sun that an appropriate headline would be "Brown Saves The Pound", reflecting the strategic ambiguity as far as the

occurred when John Major, as chan-claration that Labour saw no constitutional objection to entry, Brown's main theme, was made by Tony Blair in a Commons debate in March 1995, long before the last election.

The origins of that November statement is still shrouded in some mystery. But one of those who argued that a door to entry should be kept open before the next election was Peter Samuelson The Tetasmy has aways insisted that those of us who interpreted Brown's statement as still leaving a slight room for manoeuvre were wrong: The door was firmly shut this side of the election, insist Treasury insiders. Even so, there is a get out clause, or rather an "opt in" one, as Brown stated that "unforeseen economic circumstances" could necesattain a change of plan.

If the process looked as if it would galvanise the Blair project by modernising Britain's place in the EU, underlining the benefits of closer co-operation with Ashdown's Liberal Democrats and splitting the Tories, could it happen before the election? If Mandelson saw the gap and persuaded Blair to go for it, he would have had more influence as a backbencher than anything accomplished at the

It probably won't happen. This is not a risk taking government. But as the benefits become more evident, Blair may begin to regard the single currency as an unexpected ace amidst mid-term electoral misfortunes.

euro is concerned). In reality Brown the New Statesman'

Steve Richards is political editor of

MONITOR

ALL THE NEWS OF THE WORLD

The Sunday papers comment on the introduction of the euro on New Year's Day

vote in favour of the euro in three years, he's got a lot of ex-Treasury plans are moving replaining to do first lentlessly forward, making a News of the World plaining to do first.

referendum look redundant. If BY THE time the Government Tony Blair really expects a presents the public with a referendum choice, it could effectively be a fait accompli-That would be wrong. Long be-

maintains that Britain could join the euro yet progress no further towards federalism, . while most other European politicians see it differently.

Above all, he must not allow Britain to drift into monetary union without a proper public debate. Anything less would be a disgrace. Sunday Times

THE NATIONAL governments (Edward Luttwak) fore we reach that stage, Mr are so likely to block each other Sunday Telegraph

Blair has to explain why he over any dispute with the European Central Bank that the latter need not fear their interference at all. Jointly allpowerful, the governments are severally impotent.

So the euro is likely to be the hardest of hard currencies, kept that way by the cruellest. most persistent deflation. What an outcome from all the hopes that European unity once evoked!

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"One thing I don't believe in is a fine. It would just mean an added tax on Barbra Streisand, Tom Hanks and Steven Spielberg." Senator John McCnin. on punishing Bill Clinton

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

'Old age is not so bad when you consider the alternatives." Maurice Chevalier. French entertainer



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PANDORA

FOR MOST people the New Year celebrations were a mere trial run for the millennium festivities. However, the absurd pressure to make 31 December 1999 a definitive celebration is causing some concern to Britain's local authorities. London's Camden Council, a huge authority covering a significant part of the West End, is worried that it will be left behind in the rush to party. A secret report from the council, appearing in the Camden New Journal, states: "We are not planning to run any large, or indeed small, scale events ourselves

.. we are seriously out of step with the other boroughs." Camden, who put in what was termed an "unrealistic" rival bid to Greenwich for the Millennium festival, are concerned about missing out on what they see as a "major promotional profile and community opportunity". Other councils in a similar quandry might take note of the public scepticism about the Millennium Dome before they throw their taxpayers' money away on the biggest extravaganza of the century.

AN OBE was not the only award that Tom Jones. Wales's singing legend. received last year. The Pontypridd-born - but California-residing - Jones attended a special ceremony before the new year at Queen Street Station, Cardiff, to witness the renaming of Pacer diesel unit 143609 as the "Tom Jones". Managing Director of Cardiff Railway, Tom Clift, explained: "We thought it would be appropriate to ask Tom to name a train that would be travelling every day from his home town." That is some branch line, all the way to Los Angeles.

IT IS a college with no grades and no departments, one where student projects have included the creation of an ergonomic guitar and an inflatable playhouse. That these activities go on at Hampshire College in Massachusetts is down to the late Jerome H. Lemelson, an inventor whose foundation funds innovative courses at the college. The Lemelsonsponsored courses. estimated to be taken by 20 per cent of the students, include How People Move, Pesticide Alternatives and Is the Mouse Dead?: The Psychology of Human-Computer Interface, As intended, the alternative curriculum

has courted commercial success. The latest project, a snowboard designed for use by people with disabilities. has a patent application pending, and an organic method of pest control is expected to be on the market later in the year. Hampshire College President, Dr Gregory Prince Jr, is proud to be a part of it all: "We were seen as somewhat radical, different and I suspect, a little bit flaky," but now, "they know that we are doing what they want to do."

COURTNEY LOVE (pictured). the queen of grunge who recently underwent a classy makeover, has been talking about her beautiful Los Angeles neighbourhood. Love explains to Allure magazine why she loves the schizophrenia of LA: "Yon've got your Moorish next to your Mediterranean next to your modern next to your British expatriate next to your aspiring starlet next to your ex-madam-nowaction-movie-transsexual post-op next to your triple-A writer ex-crackhead Spanish-Chinese nursery owner. Here, it's like I'm the luckiest person alive. I know who I am."

CHELSEA CLINTON has been named one of the 10 gutsiest women of the year. The award, doled out by Jane magazine, credits the . President's daughter for turning out so well despite her high-powered and highprofile parentage, "No one else has made being a girl so cool," coos the magazine. We learn that Chelsea seldom drinks alcohol herself at the parties she attends, and one classmate explains how Chelsea thoughtfully comforts and

ministers to

those who have overdone it on the amber nectar. However, Chelsea's aresence isn't guaranteed to have such a sobering effect. Another classmate breathlessly recalls one particular party that Chelsea and her constant Secret Service entourage ttended: "The cops

came up to the house and were about to break up the party, but then the Secret Service went up to the cops and said Hey we've got it under check'. The Secret Service let the party go on. It was

How many prawns make a sapphire?

THERE COMES a point in every woman's life when the acquisition of a jewel, a serious jewel, becomes not merely appealing but imperative. I reached that point shortly after breakfast last Friday morning when, passing from the hotel dining room to the cliff-top terrace for a better view of Indian Ocean shipping lanes, I noticed a discreet but attractively lit glass cabinet displaying local gems in one corner of the lobby. I paused.

"Come quick or you will miss the supertanker," said Mr Pog tugging at my elbow. "You do realise that a vessel that size takes 12 miles to stop don't you?"

To be honest I didn't, but then, until I met Mr Pog the previous day by the hotel pool, I was equally unaware that there are 27 different kinds of banana in Sri Lanka and 83 varieties of snake of which only five are poisonous, and that if my husband were to invest, say, \$100,000 setting up a prawn farm in Negumbo - Mr Pog had a friend with lagoon rights affording excellent marine harvest opportunities in Negumbo you know anything about gems..."



SUE ARNOLD Until I met Mr Pog by

the pool, I was unaware that there are 27 kinds of banana in Sri Lanka

- he would certainly make 300 per cent of his money within six months. "You look at the tanker, I'll look at

the sapphires," I said and then remembered that Mr Pog although Sri Lankan born and bred, had a Dutch grandfather (hence his curious name) from a diamond broking family in Amsterdam. "Unless, that is,

Mr Pog cast a cursory glance at the contents of the cabinet, murmured something about tourist rubbish, and said that if I were really looking for an investment I should buy not sapphires but alexandrine. It just so happened that he had a friend who could supply me with a piece of alexandrine weighing up to 50g which would certainly quadru-

ple in value within... Alas, I shall never know. Oneminute Mr Pog, charming, educated, attentive, was there beside me. The next he was being flung out on his ear with the duty manager hissing that if be ever caught the bounder on his hotel premises again he would call the police. "But I thought he was the entertainments director," I said. "He told me he was the inspiration behind your splendid New

Year's Eve celebrations last night." The duty manager smiled politely and expressively, by which I mean that his expression fell somewhere between "some mothers do have 'em" and "there's one born every minute".

It was at this point that I knew I quence my oldest daughter's god-

should have to save face by acquiring a serious jewel. There was just one problem - I know absolutely nothing about precious stones. Then again, who does?

My mother knows all about rubies because she's Burmese. When she was at the mission school in Moulmein before the war, she swapped her most precious possession, a matchbox full of cotton wool, for a set of fivestones belonging to a girl called Nancy whose father worked in the ruby mines at Mogok. Each fivestone was a tiny ruby.

She was dismissive of my first enagement ring, an avant garde piece by an award winning Chelsea designer featuring three rubies set asymmetrically around a diamond. A ruby, advised my mother, never plays second fiddle to a diamond. It should always be the centrepiece. Not that it mattered much, she added witheringly, since these rubies were far too red and shiny to be proper Burmese rubies and if they

weren't Burmese they didn't count. The only advice of any consefather offered - it came together with a white prayer book on the occasion of her First Communion was that before she went to bed with anyone she should first look under the pillow to check for the jewel

Ah yes, but say there was a jewel and 12 hours later in the cold light of morning those emerald ear clips turn out to have cost less than the price of a prawn sandwich? When you buy a gem from a reputable jeweller's, they give you a certificate of authenticity. The chances of finding one under your pillow are slim.

How much are those earrings? I asked the hotel assistant. "22,000 US dollars," he said. "Or if we are talking sterling that is roughly £15,000. These are yellow sapphires set in handwoven gold, a particularly lovely piece if I may say so."

Let's work this out. If my husband invested £5,000 in a prawn farm, in six months time he would make £15,000 and I could get the earrings...

I wonder what Mr Ratner would make of the arrangement. I'm sure Mr Pog would approve.

It's been a swell party, but it may be drawing to a close

IT HAS been quite a party. The United States has just ended one of the most prosperous, happiest years in its history, its enjoyment entirely untarnished by the bizarre circus that is playing out in Washington. Most of the nation has simply been enjoying itself, riding a tide of optimism that has been powered by a booming economy.

Six months ago, I wrote about the remarkably positive mood of the US. the slightly unnerving sense of living in a country that was experiencing a time as good as any in its history. Despite everything, that persists -for the most part. But it is coming to an end. The party is starting to wind down, and the guests are beginning to check their watches.

The sense of good times is still there. Successive opinion polls show the country as content as it has been for decades. Consumer confidence, though down from its historic highs of earlier last year, is still very high. Unemployment is still at thirty-year lows. The Dow Jones index has just recorded a fourth straight year of double-digit gains. A table-load of facts and figures confirms an enormous drop in crime.

Last month, the economic expansion became the second longest in history - at seven years and eight months - outpaced only by the long boom of the 1960s. There was a counterpoint to this by a spreading sense of anger as a war in South-East Asia spun out of control. However ill-considered and dangerous American policy in Iraq may be, it has so far caused no body-bags to be brought home.

A decade or so ago, crime was rising rapidly, along with unemployebbing away. After the long Reagan boom, with all of its promises of Morning Again in America, the country was waking up with a hangover. And it was fashionable to speak about decline - not just a cyclical downturn, but a long term, secular lennium looms. Since the Kennedy



ANDREW MARSHALL

The United States has just ended one of the vears in its history

century end with the millennium. The most literate, coherent and

intellectually credible version of this came from Paul Kennedy of Yale University. In The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers, published in 1988. he laid out a history of all the world's hegemonies, and the arc of their destiny. America, he said, could not escape a similar fate. As America grew more powerful and its interests abroad proliferated, it had to spend more and more money on sustaining its international position, Kennedy argued. That debilitated the domestic economy.

At the end of the 1980s, it was a common view: America was running vast budget and trade deficits, and the nation's debt was mounting. Yet it was still pursuing global domination, with the bills for the Pentagon's weapoury sky-rocketing every year. It was losing ground in some key exment, while growth and jobs were port markets, especially high technology, and industry had heen hollowed out by a decade of megamergers, leveraged buyouts and

asset stripping.
It was a brilliant analysis, but it

book, the Cold War has ended and defence spending has come down by 40 per cent. That, along with seven years of healthy growth, has turned the federal deficit into a surplus. Despite its concerns about Iraq, North Korea and so on, there is no nation on earth that threatens the US militarily. And the economic rival that. was being lined up as the new nemesis - Japan - has plunged into economic turmoil.

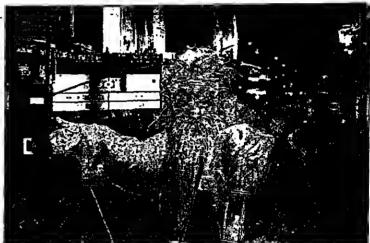
Domestically, the economy has apparently found new sources of growth, which have been capitalised by its theorists as the New Economy. The combination of technology most prosperous, happiest and globalism has become a new religion: through software, America believes it has found salvation.

Technology is the deity, the key to decline that would see the American entertainment, finance, the feelgood factor. The Dow Jones may - which concentrates on technology stocks - has exploded, rising 40 per cent last year.

And it is the rising stock market that kept the economy growing. At the end of last year, the savings rate - the amount of cash people spend divided by the amount they earn became negative for the first time since the Great Depression.

The conventional economic analysis is that a rising stock market increases consumer wealth. which keeps spending up, which in turn boosts stock market prices. Another, more cynical way to describe it is that a small group of people go out to buy natty new computers and software, which they use to trade the stocks of software and Internet companies, which pushes up the prices of those companies, which generates wealth for the small group of people, which they spend on even nattier software.

For all sorts of reasons, this cannot continue. For a start, it amounts doesn't look so good as the next mil- to a high-tech version of taking in each others' washing. The valuation



Father Time among New Year's revellers in Time Square AP

of stocks is far too high, about 20 per deficit again. It was the consumer of economic recovery, and hence the cent overall. Some of the internet companies have yet to show they can have soared, but the Nasdaq index make any money at all. Consumers cannot keep spending more money than they have, and companies, too. are borrowing faster than at any time in a decade. Furthermore, the trade deficit is rising once again to unsustainable levels. At some point in the next few months, the party is going to end - badly.

The country is still phenomenally strong, its economy still dominant, its hold on key technologies almost unchallenged in some areas. But most of the points made by Mr Kennedy 10 years ago still hold good. The trade deficit is vast and accelerating, and America's taste for imports is unsustainable. Take those computers, for instance. America runs a trade surplus on capital goods overall, but on computer accessories it runs a deficit of some \$20bn. Every time one of those smart people huys another nice box, the software may fly the stars and stripes, but the rest of it is sure to be foreign.
Of course, it has not mattered

very much for the last year that the

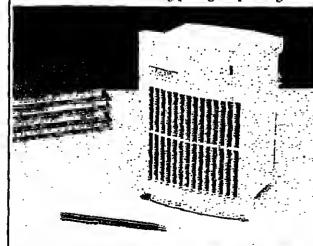
last resort, propping up a very sick world economy. And global investors have heen more than happy to finance the deficit by huying US securities: after all, America seemed the only safe haven, its stock market kept running ahead while others collapsed, and low inflation kept the dollar attractive.

Most Americans have been no more interested in the rest of the world for the last few years than they have in their own tincreasingly bizarre) domestic politics. They had better things to do, like making money, and spending it. But the US has been reminded in the last six months, by Iraq. by Russia and by the Asian economic crisis, that the world can easily impinge on its domestic bliss.

America believes in its heart that its happy days have been its own creation, through hard work, technology and ingenuity. But in many ways, the Golden Nineties had as much to do with a benign international environment that left Americs unchallenged and made its stock markets look more attractive than anyone else's. In the next year, all US was running up a massive trade of that could change.

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are now so used to seeing transport as a problem that we are in danger of losing all sense of

almost invariably seen as a problem, even as a crisis, actual or impeoding; and transport policy is increasingpeople will be forced out of their cars, cars will be forced out of cities, goods will be lorced out of trucks and into trains. The aims of such policies are often sound and laudable, but we must beware of conceiving of transport as a problem that must be solved through methods antagonistic to the fundamental freedoms

This crisis and coercion model of transport rests on perceptions which, I would argue, are fundamentally flawed. It is historically illiterate, failing to understand the historical roots of current and future trends and the lessons of past experience; it is sociologically and economically simplistic, failing to grasp the interdependence between current patterns of

I chart " "Call

which the phenomenon of

transport expresses and

in which complex contemporary societies operate; it is elitist, failing to comprehend that ordinary people are capabalance. For transport is today ble of making rational and intelligent choices about transport modes and the organisation of their lives, and that what planners, academics, ly conceived in coercive terms: theorists and activists tell them is good for them is not necessarily so: it reflects a view of society which is ultimately

fragmented and atomized. As for congestion: well congestion is part of transport, because it is part of life. It is not a new problem, as I hope I have made clear. It can be ameliorated, but it cannot be done away with. I have never understood why people are always quoting the claim that traffic in London in the 1990s moves no more quickly oo average than traffic in Loodon in the 1890s. Leaving aside the basic unprovability of this assertion, why would it be otherwise?

which a lot of life is focused: there is, as there always has been, a great deal of traffic in a finite space: a lot of traffic management is needed, which



PODIUM RALPH

HARRINGTON From a lecture by the transport historian given to the Royal Society of Arts

means traffic lights, prioritized junctions, pedestrian crossings and so on, all of which slow traffic down; lots of decisions are required; a lot of stopping and starting. It is my guess that in any city above a certain size, given any mode of mech-London is an area into anized transport, the average speed of traffic will be more or

less what it is in London now. Congestion, furthermore, is transport or traffic. It is a prod- styled bollards, decorative

uct of social activity. If you are paving, flower beds, craft stalls in a place where there are things going on, where lots of people live, work, and enjoy themselves, you are going to find congestion.

Cities with highly developed public transport systems such as Portland (Oregon), Paris, Munich and Glasgow are as congested as those that do not. Congestion is a fact of life in cities. Too many people talk today as if it is the avoidable product of mistaken transport policies. Some of it may be, although this is hard to prove; but congestion as a phenomenon is as much an expression of collective human activity as obtaining food or reading a book.

This, I suspect, is not a popular view. Much transport planning over the past few years has been devoted to shutting traffic out of the very places which have given it existence: town and city centres. Pedestrianized streets have conquered the land. A visitor from another planet might be forgiven for wondering what we think streets are for certainly not for traffic, that's for sure. Town after town has sucnot essentially a product of cumbed to a wave of heritage-

and street entertainers. I do not think all pedestrianization is a had thing: Kingston on Thames, Cambridge and York are examples of the benefits such policies can bring. The environment is cleaner, more visually attractive, safer (at least in terms of the dangers of road traffic), quieter, more relaxed.

But there is too often an uncritical application of such policies to areas without a consideration of some of the consequences. It is now very difficult, for example, to get a bus to the centre of Reading; since pedestrianization the buses, which in Reading are excellent (having been successfully defended over the years by one of the best Labour councils in the country), are diverted down narrow and congested streets around the fringes of the town centre.

And how, I wonder, is the contemporary desire to rescue the town centre and the high street from the depredations of the out of town shopping mall going to be achieved if the shops are inconveniently isolated by acres

of patterned pedestrianized paving?

Ire?

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Deeper than Henry James



JOHN WALSH

Apart from being the last word in weirdness, this PlayStation game is curiously subtle

IT WAS, I think, when I discovered Anita Brookner in my Christmas cracker that I began to have doubts about the festive season. Not the exquisite Miss Brookner herself, in a cutaway swimsuit and sash, you understand - just a fragment of text from her novel, Hotel Du Lac: "Good women always think it's their fault when someone is being offensive. Bad women never take the hlame for anything."

Yet another social-comment bullseye for Anita there, I think we all agree. But what was it doing in my Boxing Day cracker?

Frankly, I was appalled. I shell out good money for crap - but real crap, you understand, not some ersatz form with any shred of dignity about it. I expect the worst for my money. I demand a small green flimsy paper crown that will split up the back when clamped on my bead, a purple squeaker thing with a curly feather, that won't unroll properly, a plastic key-ring in the shape of a warthog, and a small bus ticket with the words "Why do bees hum? Because they don't know the words". printed several times in sequence. Call me a perfectionist, but that's the kind of quality on which I insist.

This year, I'm afraid, things were very different. Inside the kind of cracker you get at festive dinner parties in south London, you find a scallop-brimmed paper hat designed by Philip Treacy, a tiny Moog synthesiser that blows loud squeaks when you programme it (and later on, it plays variations of themes by Berg and Ligeti, but that's just showing off in my view, a tungstensteel German key-ring with voice identification gizmo and doorpiercing laser gun. And you get a

motto by Anita Brookner. I could hardly contain my disappointment. Can anybody really imagine that Christmas is anything to do with taste? That hecause their ridiculous angel-bedecked tree is a posh £60 Sprucus norwegicus nonspikus that doesn't drop its needles all over the Berber, it is a less foolish object to have in your home than anyone else's tree? That although you and I have both drenched a small black fruity pudding with brandy and set fire to it, but mine was a 19-year-old VSOP Curvoisier and yours was a ghastly two-star Fundador picked up at



Welcome to the wunderful world of PlayStation. This is not a screen from the forthcoming AnitaBrooknerWorld Part I, but from the racing game Toca 2

Malaga Airport's El Bastarde gift shop in 1994, we have not both been guilty of a shocking waste of alcohol? That, while both our three-yearold daughters have spent the last six days refusing to take off their Fairy Princess costumes, but your daughter's is a £125 creation from Joanna's Tent in Chelsea, and my daughter's wand and fairy wings are from Toys R Us, either star-struck midget has any connection with haute couture?

All you can do is embrace the prevailing air of tacky amateur dramatics, and go where the wind takes you. Then you might enjoy an experience like that of my friend. Je remy, who went to a drinks party the Sunday after Christmas, had a dozen glasses of Napa Valley Cava Mumm and found himself beside a charming blonde lady of 50.

Jeremy is the most courtly of men - serious, intellectual, judicious, long-married, able to explain what Wim Duisenberg and his cohorts have in store for us - but he is not especially gallant with the ladies. Anyway, there he was gazing at the black roots and the pretty face of his fellow guests. After a

while, the euro-conversation flagged a bit and he said: "So, ah, did you get any nice presents?"
"Yes indeed," she responded.

"My husband gave me this Cartier hracelet, the children gave me some soap and my neighbour gave me some edible knickers.

Emboldened by drink, Jeremy was moved to asic "Ob really? Ah, what flavour? "Chocolate and strawberry, I

think," said the woman. A silence fell, as it does at such moments. Then: "As a matter of fact," she said, 've got them on at the moment." "Have you really," said Jeremy,

without thinking. "Actually

feeling a bit peckish..." It just slipped out. Really he didn't mean it. Both of them stood there in a Putney living room, rooted to the spot with embarrassment, flanked by their husband and wife, both guilty of flirtation beyond the call of duty. Neither could continue, short of actually saying, Would you care to have sex upstairs?" Nor could they convincingly

return to the Central European

Bank. In fact, if the bostess's son

hadn't appeared, showing off his

horrible bug-eyed Furby, they'd probably be there still.

IT'S EXTRAORDINARY bow swiftly we lose our prejudices after a certain age. When I was seven, I knew I could never, ever, grow to like (a) girls, (b) marzipan, (c) cheese and (d) iazz. It took a while for me to get over these notions - respectively six years, nine years, 11 years and 30 years. In your early adulthood, you know you'll never really like skiing. gin, cigars or the plays of Noel Coward, but it takes only a couple of years to change your mind. In your thirties, you tend to poo-poo this new-fangled nonsense of microwave ovens and personal stereos, then find yourself guiltily trying them out after a few months. Now I find, after only a token year or so of complaining about the things, I've become pathetically hooked on

PlayStation games. "No, no, no," I used to say. "I won't have the children spending their lives gazing at the TV screen. No. no. I won't endorse the culture of violence, in which every game features a lot of bash-crash-spin-

around-wallop confrontations. No. no, think of all that wear and tear on young thumbs..." Then you plug in the thing, and your life is suddenly transformed. Whole afternoons disappear as you wrestle with a game called Toca 2, trying to keep your 150mph Peugeot on the racetrack in the falling rain, while your knuckles go numb and the control device

in your hands vibrates seismically

whenever you career off into the

piled-up tyres or the lap signs. Even worse is to think that I, who have always disdained fantasy fiction, and its warring tribes with their stunid names, am utterly transfixed by something called "Oddworld", in which a stumbling, flatulent, adenoidal, not-very-hrave lump of green ectopiasm called Abe has to rescue scores of foolish, hyper-excitable Mudokkan slaves from the Glokkan mines, under the eyes and the anteater beaks of the sadistic

ing - I'm afraid I may be loosing my marbles too, I who once gave up reading late Henry James because I found it too psychologically facile. My household has turned into a

Sligs. Yes. I know what you're think-

domesticated OddWorld. My tiny

daughter has started appearing beside me when I'm in the bath, making borrible faces and squeaking "I'm a Slig". But apart from being the last word in weirdness, the game is curiously subtle.

For one thing, it's not as violent as you'd expect. Instead of bashing everyone you encounter, you have to take to the enslaved Mudokkans. express sympathy and interest as if you were at a drinks party hold their attention, get them to trust you and follow you to freedom. The nnly vinlence you perpetrate is when they get too excited, and you have to slap them to bring them to their senses. The whole thing, in other words, is like the arrival of the Victorian novel, full of emotional shifts and hysterical melodrama. upon a literary scene dominated by travel and adventure.

If this goes on, we'll soon be looking at a new PlayStation game where meek ladies in cardigans patrol the streets of South Kensington trying to find conversational gamhits that will destroy their flashy, but morally bankrupt, rivals. So yes, stand by for part one of AnitaBrooknerWorld.

RIGHT OF REPLY

DAVID BODANIS



A science writer replies to our choice of Benjamin Franklin as the Briton of the Millennium

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN'S experiments with kites and electricity are impressive, and we wouldn't be able to listen to old CDs of ABBA without them, but I wouldn't vote him the Briton of the Millennium on that count. If he hadn't done those experiments someone else would have. As a scientist, he was replaceable.

Shakespeare would seem a hetter bet, as Radio Four's Today listeners suggested. It's true that language evolves, and already his words are fading from clarity, becoming ever more blurred to all but the most trained. But many of the insights underlying that language can survive the losses of translation into whatever language is likely to be dominant 1,000 years from now; be it Malay or Xhosa or Windows. The translator will become a rescuing spaceship, plucking King Lear and Othello away from the world of decaying English.

Come to think of that, I would give Franklin a good vote, but not for his electricity research. Instead, think of the way his political skills resemble the spaceship rescuing Shakespeare.

A small fragment of British cultural DNA bad been pinched off, and carried to the new locale of North America. The resultant nation was different from its British parent, that is true. But because Benjamin Franklin ensured a moderate birth - being a good Pennsylvanian, he was preaching the Third Way two centuries ago - the new country kept much of that British source within it.

So who gets my vote for the most important Briton of the years to come? She'll be the one who helps a significant fragment of Britain leapfrog across the vicissitudes of the future, and survive, at least partially intact, when the start of the Fourth millennium is

A bank note with two faces

FANS OF Doctor Dolittle will remember the Pushme-Pullyou, the llama with two heads facing in opposite directions. Perhaps it is not surprising that the new European single currency should be the subject that brings us its publishing equivalent. Read this book one way up and you get the case for the euro (made by a former business editor of The Independent). Turn it upside down and back to front to find the same facts marshalled to make the case against

The reason the body of the economic evidence can be turned to such contradictory conclusions is that the 'philes and the 'phobes are never comparing like with like. The case against joining the single currency is macroeconomic: it concerns

MONDAY POEM

EAST OF HERE, WEST OF HERE BY KEN SMITH

the days are the great flatlands, long arc of the earth's curve falling away on all points of the compass.

And what the light presents: barn, tree. girl in an orchard, an old woman peeling apples, glimpsed as you go.

The nights are the mountains, to be got through in the headlights east of the river or west of the watershed: the same: speech that makes sense

only of essential things; bread and salt

in greeting, a glass of wine, farewell,

some place to lay me down to sleep to the tick of the same bedside clock, the battery wearing itself away.

Our poems this week come from volumes shortlisted for the T S Ellot Prize, to be onnounced on 11 Jonuary. Ken Smith's 'Wild Root' is published by Bloodaxe (£7.95)



MONDAY BOOK

BOTH SIDES OF THE COIN: THE ARGUMENT FOR AND AGAINST THE EURO AND EUROPEAN MONETARY UNION CHRISTOPHER HUHNE AND JAMES FORDER, PROFILE BOOKS, €13/E8.99

picture on the economy. Will interest rates have to be set at the wrong level? Will the loss of the option to devalue prove a serious blow to growth and job prospects in the UK?

On the other hand, the case in favour of joining rests on microeconomics - on the efficiency gains to thousands of husinesses from the removal of exchange-rate uncertainty and transaction costs, and on the dramatic industrial restructuring likely to result from the creation of a genuine single market of nearly 300 million people. For those countries taking part, this will spell job gains and greater productivity. How big an opportunity is British business going to lose from our non-participation?

There will be no answer to these questions until we actually take the plunge (which is why economists tend to think that membership of the single currency is essentially a political decision). Yet despite, or perhaps because of, the lack of clear empirical evidence, it is rare to find euro aficionados who are genuinely undecided about the merits of these arguments. Anybody who cares about the single currency - and it has to be said it is not a topic to kindle popular interest - holds very firm views on the subject.

Given the passion with which so many of its readers will approach a book that gives both sides of the case in a reasoned and straightforward way, I decided to experiment with an open mind. Could James Forder, the Oxford economist who puts the case against joining. convert me from europhilia to europhobia? If not, the magisterial and compelling arguments put forward by Christopher Huhne in his balf of the book are unlikely to change the misguided opinions of those who are against joining the single currency.

I did not change my mind. I still think it is madness for the UK to stay out of the euro. After all, would any business prosper more if it were Preparing the euro's launch in Brussels on New Year's Eve

the loss of some of the levers that alter the big Canadian or American? If it were outside a buge and rich market, even with no formal barriers to trading with it, or inside? It's a no-brainer. And while Canadian businesses have no choice;

There is just one big question mark about the operation of the euro, and one well argued in the Forder half of the book. It concerns the institutions of the single currency, and especially the European Central Bank (ECB), The Maastricht Treaty gave the ECB complete independence, and set the control of inflation as its overriding priority.

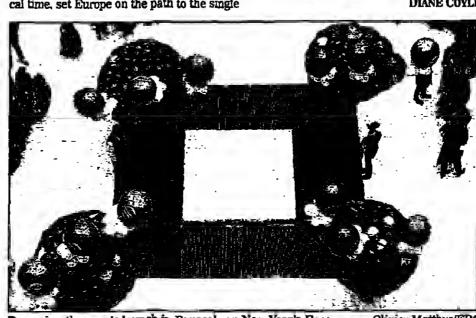
The explanation for this institutional framework lies in the recent history of monetary union. Jacques Delors, the French socialist who was head of the European Commission at the cribcal time, set Europe on the path to the single

currency because the French bridled at the German Bundesbank's de facto monetary control of Europe since the mid-1980s. If the Bundesbank was setting French interest rates anyway, why not aim for a monetary union run by a kinder, gentler sort of central bank? Germany's riposte was to accept the idea but to insist on an independent European Central Bank, cast in the Bundesbank's orthodox image.

Most economists believe in the merits of central bank independence, in the sense that growth is higher and inflation lower if monthto-month interest-rate decisions are kept out of the hands of politicians. But many would prefer the model of the US Federal Reserve, required by law to aim for high employment as well as low inflation. In Europe, interest rates will be in the hands of an institution with a subtly different job, and without the political network and antennae of an independent national central bank to aid it.

Of course, if Britain had been a committed member of the euro from the start, the ECB might well have taken a different shape. Picking holes in its design is utterly academic now. The euro is actually here.

DIANE COYLE



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some of the proposed transfers of funds were reduced. The personal

aspect of this disagreement was that

it overshadowed the long-standing and deep friendship between Roth-

schild and his wife and the Hodgkins.

manding post in Trinity than in

most colleges, because the Master is appointed by the Crown and the

Fellows, remembering a tyrannical

Master in the 18th century, give him

less power and fewer duties than in

colleges where the head is elected

by the Fellows. The Master's Lodge

gave him and Marni scope for their talent as bosts, both to junior mem-

bers of the college and to many se-

nior persons. They restored the

custom of inviting the visiting High

Court judge to occupy part of the

lodge during his occasional tour of

duty in Cambridge. Under Hodgkin's guidance, the

courts known as Whewell's Courts

The Mastership is a less de-

Professor Sir Alan Hodgkin

LAN HODGKIN was one of the leading experimental biologists of the middle years of this century. He achieved an almost complete understanding of excitation and conduction in nerve fibres at the level possible with the techniques available at that time. This paved the way for subsequent unravelling of the molecular mechanisms, which followed from improvements in electronic techniques, and the growth of molecular genetics.

He also made major contributions to other aspects of the physiology of nerves and muscles, and especially to the mechanism of vision. During the Second World War, be was a member of the team that developed short-wave airborne radar, a development that was crucial to many of the successes of the RAF. His career was completed by holding the two most distinguished positions open to an academic scientist in Britain, the Presidency of the Royal Society (1970-75) and the Mastership of Trinity College, Cambridge (1978-84).

It was his war work that led him to write his autobiography, Chance and Design: reminiscences of science in peace and war (1992). The. development of airborne radar had not been covered in any of the histories of the war and Hodgkin felt that he had a duty to the memory of his colleagues, several of whom had died in accidents during test flights, to record their achievement. When this was complete, be added a very full account of his boyhood, his time at Cambridge before the war, and his post-war scientific work, with an outline of his activities as President of the Royal Society and Master of Trinity.

The result is a delight to read, enlivened by frequent quotations from his letters to his mother and his wife's to her parents in the United States. Inevitably, parts are too technical for some readers but the book is laid out so that these can easily be skipped.

Alan Hodgkin was born into a

strictly Quaker family shortly before the outbreak of the First World War. His father, George, was resolute that his principles did not allow him to undertake any work that would help the war effort, an attitude that generated a degree of hostility that is difficult to believe for those of us who lived through the second war when the attitude of genuine conscientious objectors was readily accepted. George Hodgkin took part in relief that country for a second visit in 1918 he died of dysentery in Baghdad.

Alan's mother made a second marriage in 1932, to Lionel Smith, Rector of the Edinburgh Academy and son of the redoubtable A.L. Smith, Master of Balliol, Alan's main boyhood interest was natural history, which he was able to pursue during his many visits to Quaker relatives in various parts of the country and at his two schools, the Downs near Malvern and Gresham's at Holt in Norfolk; he was not a mere bird-spotter but made several serious studies of bird behaviour.

Hodgkin won an open scholarship to Trinity College, Cambridge, and went up in the autumn of 1932 to read for the Natural Science Tripos. His original intention was to specialise in zoology with the idea of a career in applied biology, probably overseas, but on the advice of his Director of Studies, Carl Pantin (later Professor of Zoology at Cambridge), be took Physiology together with Zoology and Chemistry in Part I; he became more interested in Physiology and chose it for his Part II. It was also on Pantin'a advice that he taught himself much mathematics outside his university courses.

In Trinity, Hodgkin stepped into a tradition of interest in the mechanism of perve action. This had been started by a friend of his father, Keith Lucas (killed in a flying accident in 1916), a Fellow of Trinity, who established that each nerve impulse is an "all-or-none" event, i.e. the size of the event that travels along a fibre is the same whatever the nature or the strength of the stimulus that set it off. Lucas's pupil E.D. (later Lord) Adrian, also a Fellow and later Master of Trinity, carried this line of work further, recording the sequences of impulses set up by sense organs or sent from the brain or spinal cord to muscles, and inspired Hodgkin by his lectures; another link in the chain was William Rushton, a mem-

ber of the teaching staff of Trinity. Hodgkin completed an important piece of research on nerve during his first postgraduate year and was immediately elected to a junior Research Fellowship at Trinity, an unusual distinction. In this work, he gave the first experimenal evidence for the "local circuit theory" according to which the electrical event at each point along the nerve fibre causes current to flow and to activate the next point along the fibre. The experiment had actrially been planned with a different objective, so the outcome was an example of the "chance" that forms

part of the title of his autobiography. His next piece of research was another example of "chance". He was recording from bundles of fibres from a nerve of a crab, and one bundle gave an exceptionally large re-



Hodgkin was joint winner of the Nobel Prize for Medicine, with Sir John Eccles and Sir Andrew Huxley, in 1963

to detect an active "local response" even when the stimulus was not

strong enough to set up an all-ornone propagated impulse.

In 1937, Hodgkin went to the US to spend a year at the Rockefeller Institute in New York. He records that he found much resistance both to the local circuit theory and to the idea of a local response; the latter was regarded as a breach of the all-or-none 'law". Hodgkin met K.S. (Kacy) Cole, who was using as experimental material the recently discovered giant nerve fibre of the squid. This fibre, about 0.5mm in diameter, is large enough to make many experiments practicable that would be impossible in other fibres. In an exceptionally elegant experiment, Cole had demonstrated a large fall in the electrical resistance of the surface membrane of the fibre during the passage of an impulse. Hodgkin collaborated with Cole in another experiment: this was his introduction to the sould giant fibre which was the material he used in the most important of his later experiments.

One of the famous members of the Rockefeller Institute was Peyton Rous, who later received a Nobel Prize for his discovery of a cancer (in chickens) caused by a virus. Through him Hodgkin met his daughter Marion (Marni), whom he later married but their acmaintance was interrupted by the outbreak of war. In 1944 Hodgkin returned to the US for a few weeks in connection with his war work he renewed his acquaintance with Marni. they married and succeeded, with some difficulty, in getting permission

for her to come to Britain. On bis return to Cambridge, Hodgkin was appointed to teaching posts in the university and in Trinity. During 1938-39, he built a new set of electronic equipment based on expertise that be had learnt at the Rockefeller, and together with Rushton he showed that applied currents too small to excite a nerve fibre caused electric changes similar to

those in a non-living cable. I went up to Trinity as an undergraduate in 1935; Hodgkin and I both lived in college and we met occasionally in friends' rooms. In 1938-39 I did Part II Physiology and received some teaching from him. He invited me to join him at the laboratory of the Marine Biological Association at Plymouth during the summer of 1939 to do some experiments on the squid fibre. Our first experiment was abortive, but another example of "chance" - Hodgkin saw that we had the fibre in a position where we could push a fine saline-filled glass tube down inside the fibre to act as an electrode with which we could measure directly the potential difference between the interior and the exterior

of the fibre. At rest, the interior was

sponse which obeyed the "all-or- about 50 millivolts negative relative ing of open cities, which was the clamp. Cole had the same idea and bridge. A major technical advance none law": evidently it consisted of to the external solution, but on stim- priocipal aim of Churchill and his ad- was the first to have such an equipa single fibre of unusually large size. ulation the internal potential rose by nt 100mV so that there was an "overshoot" of about 50mV beyond the resting potential, a result that would be impossible on the then current theory.

By the time that we had checked this result war was imminent so we packed up and left Plymouth; two days later Hitler's armies marched into Poland. We published our result in a short letter to Nature, with no explanation for the overshoot. We met a few times during the war and published a full-length paper in 1945, containing no less than four possible explanations for the overshoot, all of which proved to be wrong. It was also in 1945 that Hodekin and I began discussing the idea that turned out to be correct.

DURING THE first six months of the 1939-45 war, Hodgkin worked at the Royal Aircraft Establishment on the physiological problems of highaltitude flying in unpressurised aircraft. He was involved in the design of an "economiser" that avoided the waste of oxygen, and in the investigation of "bends", the painful consequence of nitrogen bubbles coming out of solution in the blood, which Hodgkin experienced himself

succeeded in getting a few of the radars designed for locating ground targets diverted to antisubmarine purposes, where they had a decisive effect in reducing our

shipping losses. Hodgkin returned to Cambridge and research on nerve in the autumn of 1945 and I joined him at the beginning of 1946. Our first question was the origin of the overshoot. The action potential was thought to be caused by a sudden increase of permeability of the membrane to all kinds of ions, making a short-circuit so that the internal potential would rise towards that of the external solution but no further. The increase of permeability had been confirmed by Cole's experiment, but the overshoot remained a puzzle.

With hindsight, Hodgkin and I later felt that we had been stupid not to have seen at once that it would be expected if the increase of permeability was specific for sodium ions: these would diffuse inwards because they are much more concentrated outside than inside the fibre and would carry their positive charge inwards. This was shown to be the correct explanation by

viser Lord Cherwell; persuasion ment running, in 1947, but he made from Patrick Blackett and others only limited use of it, showing only that current through the membrane did indeed vary continuously with potential, with a region in which the relabonship would be unstable if the feedback were not operating.

Hodekin visited the US again in the spring of 1948. He learnt from Cole about this experiment and in turn told Cole of the experiments with Katz on the effects of low sodium concentration. Hodgkin's voltage clamp equipment was ready for the Plymouth season of 1948. He and Katz started work with it and I joined them later, obtaining results generally similar to Cole's.

We improved the apparatus before the 1949 season, when Hodgkin and I did our final series of experiments, in which we recorded the effect of altering the external sodium concentration. We separated the components of current carried by sodium and by potassium ions, and we fitted their time courses with equations that seemed plausible if the currents were carried by the ions diffusing through "gates" in the membrane which were opened or closed by changes of membrane potential. We obtained a satisfactory fit to our observations on the basis of these

were renovated and much of the Fellows' Garden was replanned. The decision to admit women undergraduates to Trinity had already been taken; it was a change of which Hodgkin wholeheartedly approved, and the admission of the first batch

coincided with his becoming Master. Hodgkin had been freed from teaching duties in 1952 when he was appointed Foulerton Research Professor of the Royal Society. In 1969 he was elected John Humphrey Plummer Professor of Biophysics in Cambridge University. He remained active in his research on vision throughout his time as President of the Royal Society and Master of Trinity. His laboratory work was curtailed after his retirement as Master by a sequence of illnesses, though he continued with the help of his colleague Brian Nunn until the latter's premature death in 1987. His medical problems culminated in an operation in 1989 to relieve pressure on the spinal cord from one of the intervertebral discs in his neck, which left him unable to walk without support and with progressive disablement.

Hodgkin received many honours. most notably membership of the Order of Merit (1973), which was preceded by a knighthood (1972). At the Royal Society, he was elected a Fellow in 1948 at the unusually young age of 34 and received a Royal Medal in 1958 and the Copley Medal in 1965. He was awarded the Baly Medal of the Royal College of Physicians (1955). He was Chancellor of Leicester University (1971-84) and President (1966-76). He was a member of many foreign academies and received honorary degrees from many universities in Britain and overseas.

Hodgkin had a remarkable ability to recognise important problems ing potential. This method of recording immediately became a in his area of interest and to see a way of tackling them. As a result, he was usually ahead of the field and could afford to carry on at his own WHEN WE had completed the work pace without worrying about being overtaken by other laboratories. Apart from three or four early pieces of research carried out alone, he did process to a deeper level. Huge his experimental work with one, two or sometimes three collaborators. From shortly after the war, he had the help of a highly skilled instrument maker, R.H. Cook

Hodgkin had no wish to build up a large group as is often done nowadays. As well as his own collaborators, be usually had one or two visitors doing their own research and publishing independently; be was free with advice and belp to them, as he was to me when I was not actually in collaboration with him. He was always ready to discuss current unpublished work with others. I have tried to model my style in science on his, and I regard myself as fortunate to have served my scientific apprenticeship with him.

He remained a very modest man, despite his achievements and his distinction. He had many interests outside science, notably literature, art and travel. His wife Marni shared these with him, except for fishing, which be mentioned among his "recreations" in Who's Who. She was for many years in charge of the children's book section of Macmillan. Their marriage was ideally successful, and it is tragic that their last years together were overshadowed by his disabilities, throughout which she cared for him devotedly. She survives him, together with the three daughters and one son of the marriage; the son has followed his father into biological research, and his election to the Fellowship of the Royal Society in 1990 gave great pleasure to his father.

Hodgkin re-established scientific contacts with Japan and with China. There had been no formal contact with Japan since the war, and Hodgkin was a member of the first formal delegation to that country. The outcome was the establishment of an exchange agreement, on the lines of those already existing with many other countries. His visit to China did re-establish occasional contacts but no more: the Cultural Revolution was still in progress and made anything but the most directly applied science impossible.

An event which was painful to Hodgkin in more ways than one was the publication in 1971 of Lord (Victor) Rothschild's report proposing the "customer-contractor princinie", according to which much of the work of each Research Council should be decided by the related government department acting as customer and paying for the work with funds transferred from the Research Council, Hodgkin, together with most working scientists, disagreed strongly with this idea, which was likely to stifle initiative in basic research, and a unanimous report of the Royal Society Council opposed the extensive use of the principle. This did not dissuade the Government from adopting it, although

was the further development of a

method of recording the internal po-

fine (0.001mm) tip of a saline-filled

glass tube through the surface

membrane, so that it could be used

for recording short-lived action po-

tentials as well as the steady rest-

on the squid fibre that we published in 1952, we could not see what

could be done next to take the

understanding of the excitation

advances have been made since,

but all have depended on technical

improvements or on advances in

other branches of biology - notably

molecular genetics - that were

unforeseeable in 1952. Hodgkin

therefore switched to other aspects

entific work, from 1970 onwards, was

on the mechanism by which the rods

and cones of the vertebrate retina

respond to light. In this work be had

several collaborators, most notably

Denis Baylor from Stanford Uni

versity. They played a major part in

elucidating the unbelievably complex

process, involving many steps of bio-

chemical amplification and compli-

cated interactions with calcium ions,

by which the absorption of a single

photon by one of the billion or so pho-

tosensitive molecules in a single rod

or cone cell suppresses the entry of

As President of the Royal Society,

several million sodium ions.

The final phase of Hodgkin's sci-

of nerve physiology.

standard technique.

ANDREW HUXLEY

Alan Lloyd Hodgkin, biologist; born Bunbury, Oxfordshire 5 Feb. ruary 1914; Fellow, Trinity College, Cambridge 1936-78, 1981-98, Master 1978-84; FRS 1948; Foulerton Research Professor, Royal Society 1952-69, President 1970-75; Nobel Prize for Medicine (jointly, with Sir John Eccles and Sir Andrew Huzley), 1963; President, Marine Biological Association 1966-76; John Humphrey Plummer Professor of Biophysics, Cambridge University 1970-81; Chancellor, Leicester University 1971-84; KBE 1972; OM 1973; married 1944 Marion Rous (one son, three daughters); died Cumbridge 20 December 1998.

Hodgkin had a remarkable ability to recognise important problems in his area of interest and to see a way of tackling them. As a result, he was usually ahead of the field and could afford to carry on at his own pace without worrying about being overtaken by other laboratories

decompression chamber From February 1940, he was working on airborne radar, initially at a number of places but finally in Malvern College. He was already skilled in electronics but learnt much more that was valuable in his post-war research. Airborne radar was already in service for detecting ships, its wavelength was 1.5 metres. too long to achieve precise directionfinding with aerials small enough to be carried on an aircraft,

In 1940, the cavity magnetron was invented, making high powers available at wavelengths of a few centimetres. Most of Hodgkin's work for the rest of the war was the development of airborne equipment working at 9cm and later 3cm, including much flying to test the equipment. Initially, he was on equipment for night fighters but was transferred to work for bombers, first for target location and later on gun control.

Like most of the scientists engaged on these projects, Hodgkin was strongly opposed to the bomb-

as an experimental subject in a Hodgkin, together with Bernard Katz, in the summer of 1947.

The experiments before the war in which Hodekin had seen local responses had led him to believe that the increase of permeability of the membrane was graded with the amount of the change of internal potential. As the internal potential was raised the permeability increase would allow entry of sodium ions whose positive charge would raise the internal potential still further, so that the situation would be unstable and the internal potential would rise explosively, causing the all-or-none character of the action potential.

The instability also makes it difficult for an experimenter to control the situation so as to investigate the causation of the permeability change. Hodgkin realised that the instability would be avoided if a wire were pushed down inside a giant nerve fibre and used to draw off the current carried inwards by sodium ions. This could be achieved with feedback amplifier, an arrangement

"Hodgkin-Huxley equations" and calculated from them the time course and the velocity of an action notential to be expected; these agreed satisfactorily with those

recorded experimentally. These results were published in five papers in 1952, and led to the award to us, jointly with Sir John Eccles, of the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1963. To my surprise, these "Hodgkin-Huxley equations" have survived with relatively little modification, though at the time I thought that they were very provisional and would soon

be superseded. Shortly after the war, Hodgkin had started experiments with radioactive tracers to follow movements of ions in nerve fibres. These experiments were mostly done in collaboration with Richard Keynes and were continued by him, establishing many features of the movements of lons into and out of nerve fibres.

In the intervals between the summer seasons at Plymouth, Hodgkin that came to be known as voltage did other important work at Camproposed transfer (

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Anatoli Rybakov

aspects of the last years of the Soviet Union was the erosion of authority and credibility of the Communist Party, a process initiated and fostered by the party itself. Some 18 months after Gorbachev's accession to the leadership, his ideological adviser, Alexander Yakovlev, was given the Polithuro's assent to switch off the red light in intellectual and cultural life, and to leave it on amber, rather than green. Henceforth, it should be writers and their editors who would, for the most part, decide what to publish.

The first rays of light were fatefully cast on the history of the party itself. Mikhail Shatrov published plays about the revolution, in which Kerensky, Lenin, Trotsky and Stalin appeared as dramatis personae, arguing and debating the events and the actions for which they were held responsible, and were given words to speak that in no way echoed the accepted orthodoxy. But the literary event that opened the flood gates

must be credited to Anatoli Rybakov. Some 20 years earlier, in 1966, he had completed Children of the Arbat, a novel in which Stalin himself is one of the main fictionalised characters. The book had been intended as a reinforcement of the destalinisation process, begun by Khrushchev in 1956, but it had been an early victim of the move towards the policy pursued by Brezhnev, which was to leave things unsaid, rather than grasp uncomfortable nettles.

As late as September 1986, Rybakov did not know if permission would be given for his book to appear. By the spring of 1987, however, the new policy was coming into place, and Children of the Arbat fitted the bill perfectly; a partly autobiographical, partly fictional account of the early 1930s, its hero, the author himself, is arrested in order to serve as a tiny link in a huge plot contrived by Stalin and his henchmen, which would culminate in the show trials, purges and mass terror to come. The book received a tumultuously enthusiastic response from the Soviet illuminati, and the historians began holding round-table discussions in which the general view was expressed that "we cannot leave the writing of our history to the novelists".

And following Rybakov, indeed,

ONE OF the most compelling from early 1988 a steady widening of the entrance to taboo topics took place. More truthful commentary was now made on such figures as Bukharin, Zinoviev, Kamenev, and others, who were officially rehabilitated, and on Trotsky, whose ideas were now revealed in at least a neutral light, and finally on Lenin who was at last acknowledged as the architect not of a "radiant future", but of all the miseries endured by the Soviet people since the revolution.

Anatoli Naumovich Rybakov was born in 1911 in Chernigov, in presentday Ukraine. His father, Ngum Aronov, was an engineer of Jewish origin. In 1919 the family moved to Moscow where on completing his secondary education Anatoli worked for two years in factory labour as a stevedore and driver. He entered the Moscow Transport Institute in 1929.

In his final year he was arrested on a trumped-up charge and sentenced to three years internal exile in Siberia. Released on 5 November 1935, he was prohibited from living in any large city and spent from 1936 to 1941 working as an automechanic and driver, and even as a ballroom-dancing teacher, in places such as Ufa. Kalinin and Ryazan. Mobilised as a private in June 1941, four years later, as a major in charge of transport in the 4th Guards Rifle Corps, he was with the first Red Army units to enter Berlin.

It was while he was still in Germany with the occupying forces at

outlook for mankind. Some of his best writing undouhtedly stems from the patchwork of his personal experience and working life.

His first novel. Kortik ("The Dirk"), appeared in 1948 at the height of the "anti-cosmopolitan", i.e. anti-Semitic, campaign, and Aronov was not a name to bear if one wished for literary success or to avoid trouhle. Fortunately, his mother's name, Rybakov, was wholly Russian, and henceforth that was the only name by which he would be known.

By the spring of 1987, the new Soviet policy was coming into place and 'Children of

Reichenbach that he began writing. Owing more to Maxim Gorky than to any of the innovative writers of the Soviet period, such as Babel or Bulgakov, Rybakov's manner, both in style and content, was all but indistinguishable from the many other adherents to Socialist Realism spawned by the Great Patriotic War: straightforward language and structure, familiar everyday themes, positive heroes and an optimistic

the Arbat' fitted the bill perfectly Kortik established him at once as a writer of children's adventure stories, and it was followed by a numher of equally successful books, notably Voditeli ("The Drivers", 1950), for which he won the Stalin Prize; Ekaterina Voronina (1955); Bronzovaya Ptitsa ("The Bronze Bird", 1956), the sequel to Kortik;

Priklyuchenie Krosha ("Krosh's

Adventures", 1960); Leto v Sos-

nuakakh ("Summer in Sosnyaki".

1964), which contains hints of an anti-Stalinist undercurrent; Kanikuly Krosha ("Krosh on Holiday", 1966); Neizvestnyi soldat ("The Unknown Soldier", 1970, the final part of the Krosh trilogy); Vystre! ("The Shot". 1975, ending the Kortik trilogy).

It was not until 1978, however, that the West heard of him. His novel Tyozhelyi Pesok ("Heavy Sand"), despite evidence of the persistent disguise of tricky subjects was a fairly successful attempt to depict the life of a Jewish family in northwestern Ukraine, ranging from the turn of the century to the Holocaust.

Although it was not the first Soviet book to touch on this topic, appearing as it did in a conservative journal, Oktyohr, it suggested that the Brezhnev regime wisbed to send a signal that the Soviet Union was the homeland of Russia's Jews, they had shared the same fate, endured the same sufferings, and that they had no need to leave a great power to go in search of national fulfilment in a tiny country-Switzerland serving as the surrogate for Israel in this case.

As with Children of the Arbat a decade later, "Heavy Sand" was meant to serve a useful purpose for the regime. But although many still regard it as Rybakov's best work, it was hopelessly late in coming. By 1978 Soviet Jews had been voting with their feet for nearly a decade.

Children of the Arbat, however, succeeded brilliantly, too brilliantly if one recognises, as one should, the massively corrosive effect of glasnost on the entire structure of the regime. The sequel, Tridtsat 'pyat' I Drugie Gody, published in the West in 1992 as Fear), suffered from the literary weaknesses of Children of the Arbat, and came very much as a left-over

from the heady days of perestroika. The true story of Stalinism and the purges, as well as many other crimes of the past, had by now been well documented, as the historians had got down to their proper jobs. Anatoli Rybakov's moment had come in the late 1980s. He had been elected president of Memorial, an organisation largely of writers and intellectuals, dedicated to the collection of documents and memorabilia of the Stalin era, and the planning of a great monument to the dictator's victims, which has yet to materialise. As a speaker at a number of Western universities, even in his eighties his tough, feisty character and manifestly genuine commitment to the cause of freedom in his country, earned him enthusiastic responses from audiences.

HARRY SHUKMAN

Anatoli Naumovich Aronov (Anatoli Rubakov), writer: born Chernigov. Ukraine 14 January 1911; married; died New York 23 December 1998.

Sam Solomon

fighters in Philadelphia whose career peaked when Leon Spinks, an uncomplicated, naive man-child, upset Muhammad Ali to win the world heavyweight btle in February 1978.

Solomon had no chance of keeping Spinks, one of boxing's legendary party animals, disciplined for long, but he did inspire him to the triumph for which he will always be known. "Neon Leon" acknowledged as much. "Sam Solomon is more than a trainer," he said before the rematch with Ali, when he was beaten. "He is like a father to me. Sam doesn't only teach me about boxing. He talks to me about a lot of things besides."

Spinks was genuinely grateful for the efforts Solomon made for him, and sorrowful when it went spectacularly wrong. Spinks's promoter Butch Lewis recalled the dreadful time before the rematch when Spinks was merrily conducting a sixmonth bender instead of dedicating himself to training. Sometimes he was so far off the rails that Solomon would lock the errant champion in his hotel room. And somebody would sleep on a makeshift bed by the door.

One morning Lewis himself was on "guard duty" when Solomon woke him up, with the terrible words Where's Leon?" The heavyweight champion of the world had escaped out of his window, crossed roofs and dropped down into the street. Solomon and Lewis found him playing pool in a bar. For all his failures, Spinks acknowledged Solomon's efforts. "He never got the full credit be deserved for what he did in helping me beat Ali," he said. "Sam was patient with me.'

Spinks, who had won the 1976 Olympic light-heavyweight gold medal



Where's Leon?

SAM SOLOMON was a teacher of in Montreal, was a seven-fight professional novice when they threw him in with Ali. He had no right to box for the championship, but at 36 Ali was buying what time he could against opponents he considered safe.

As well as technical coaching Solomon taught Spinks to shorten his punches and to counter the moves Ali would make - there was a great deal of pyschological work to be done.

There was friction in the Spinks team long before the rematch, partly because of the man's own character and partly because of rivalry and friction between Solomon and the younger Philadelphia trainer George Benton.

Benton, a former world class middleweight and later a widely respected trainer, went on record as saying Solomon did not want him stealing any limelight. Worse, he said Solomon was there merely for the money. "All of a sudden it dawned on me," he said. "These sonsabitches don't think this kid can win this fight

but they're going to get a payday."
In the dressing-room after Spinks had won, Benton recalled hitterly: "I couldn't get next to him. Everybody was pushing me out of the damn way. Leon was Sam Solomon's champ now . . . 1 put my clothes on and walked out." The two trainers made up, but fell out again during the re-match in September 1978, which led to Benton leaving the corner in midfight. Spinks lost on points and was effectively finished at 25.

Solomon was a long-time resident of Philadelphia, who had around 300 amateur contests and knew one of the greatest trainers in boxing history, Jack Blackburn, who taught heavyweight champion Joe Louis. As well as boxing, he was a serious competitor at baseball - a catcher in the Negro League of the time.

From 1950, he was a boxing trainer, and at different times worked with two other heavyweight champs, Sonny Liston and Ernie Terrell, When Spinks lost to Ali, Solomon faded from the world stage. He was never one of the great coaches hut he remained in the game, working with youngsters in Philadelphia until his retirement in the late 1980s. In old age he suffered from Alzheimer's disease.

BOB MEE

Leon Solomon, boxing trainer: born 1915; married (one daughter, one stepdaughter); died Philadelphia 13 December 1998.

GAZETTE

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Gnards, 11am.

LECTURES

Victoria and Albert Museum: Liz James, "Perceptions of Byzantium", 2pm Wallace Collection: Peter Hughes, "Furniture by Oeben and Riesener", 1pm.

APPOINTMENTS

Miss Kaye Oliver, to be British High Commissioner to the Kingdom of Lesotho. Sir Robin Fearn, to be Chairman of the Anglo-Spanish Society. Mr David John Chinery, to be a Provincial Stipendiary Magistrate for the West Midlands Commission Area. Ms Christiana Victoria Mary Hyde, to be a full-time Chairman of Employment Tribunals, assigned to the London South Region. Mr David Anthony Pearl, to be a full-time Chairman of **Employment Tribunals**, assigned to the London North Region. Mr Justice Charles, to be a Judge of the Employment Appeal Tribunal

Announcements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services, Wedding anniversaries, in memoriam) are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT extra). OTHER Gazette announcements (notices, functions, Forthcoming mar-riages, Marriages), which must be submitted in writing are charged at £10 a line, VAT extra. Always include a day-time telephone number.

The Independent's main switchboard cumber is 0171-293 2000.

BIRTHDAYS

Mrs Jackie Ballard MP, 45; Miss Grace Bumbry, opera and concert singer, 62; Miss Dyan Cannon, actress, 60; Mr Alexander Chancellor, journalist, founding editor of the Independent Magazine, 59; Capt Sir Ivar Colquhoun of Luss Bt. Chief of the Clan. 83: Mr Iain Cuthbertson. actor, 69; Sir William Deane, Governor-General of Australia, 68; Mr Alan Dyer, former chief constable, Bedfordshire, 65; Professor Keith Hancock, Australian economist 64: Lt-Cdr Sir Ian Clark Hutchison, a member of the Queen's Body Guard for Scotland, 96: Professor Brian Josephson, physicist, 59: Air Vice-Marshal Richard Kyle, 56: Professor Lance Lanyon, principal, Royal Veterinary College, 55; Mr John McLaughlin, hlues and jazz guitarist, 56; Miss Margaret Marshall, concert and opera singer, 50; Mr Mick Mills. footballer, 50; Mr Floyd Patterson, boxing champion, 64; Mr Nicholas Payne, director, the Royal Opera, Covent Garden, 54; Baroness Pitkeathley, chief executive, Carers National Association. 58; Mr Timothy Rix, publisher, 65; Miss Barbara Rush, actress, 69; Mrs Phyllis Starkey MP. 51: Sir Alan Thomas, chairman, Firth Holdings plc, 56; Mrs Audrey Wise MP, 64; Miss Jane Wyman, actress, 85.

ANNIVERSARIES

Births: James Ussher, Archbishop of Armagh and chronologist, 1581; Giovanni Battista Pergolesi, composer, 1710; Sir William Hillary, founder of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, 1771; Jakob Ludwig Karl Grimm, philologist and folklorist, 1785; Henry George Bohn, publisher and bookseller, 1796; Louis Braille, deviser of a blind alphabet, 1809; Sir Isaac Pitman, publisher and inventor of Pitman's short-

ter, painter, 1825; General Tom Thumb (Charles Sherwood Stratton), dwarf, 1838; Valentine Cameron Prinsep, artist, 1838; Emile Cohl (Courtet), film animator, 1857; Josef Suk, composer, 1874; Alfred Edgar Coppard, poet and short-story writer, 1878; Augustus Edwin John. painter, 1878; Sterling Holloway, actor and comedian, 1905; William Bendix, actor, 1906; Jan Lenica, film anima

tor, 1928.

Deaths: Maréchal François-Henri de Montmorency-Bouteville, Duc de Luxembourg, soldier, 1695; The Rev Stephen Hales. inventor, chemist and plant physiologist, 1761; Charlotte Lennox (nee Ramsay), novelist and poet, 1804; Charles Samuel Keene, bumorous artist and illustrator, 1891; Clarence Edward Dutton, geologist, 1912; Count Alfred von Schlieffen, field marshal, 1913; Benito Perez-Galdos, writer and poet, 1920; Léon-Adolphe Willette, painter, 1926; Henri Bergson, philosopher, 1941; Theodor Körner, Austrian military leader and president, 1957; Ralph Vaughan Williams, composer, 1958; Albert Camus, novelist and playwright, killed 1960; Erwin Schrödinger, physicist, 1961; Thomas Stearns Eliot, poet and critic, 1965; Donald Malcolm Campbell, land and water speedster, killed 1967; Said Hammani, representative of the PLO, assassinated 1978; Joy-Friederike Victoria Adamson, naturalist and writer, 1980; Lt-Gen Sir Brian Gwynne Horrocks, military strategist and historian, 1985; Christopher William Bradshaw Isherwood, novelist and playwright, 1986.

On this day: Columbus sailed from America back to Spain in the Nina, 1493; King Charles I attempted to arrest five MPs, 1642; the Austrians, under Joseph Alvintzi, were defeated by Napoleon at Rivoli, 1797; Donizetti's opera Don Pasquale was first per-

hand, 1813; Myles Birket Fos- formed, Paris, 1843; all memof Lothinghland (Norwich); to be also Honorary Canon of Norwich Cathedral bers of the crew of the Rhyl lifeboat were lost in attempt ing to save the schooner Temperance, 1847; the Fabian Society was founded, 1884; the first appendicitis operation was performed, 1885; the opera The Mountebanks, with libretto by W.S. Gilbert and music by Alfred Cellier was first produced, 1892; Utah became the 45th of the United States, 1896; the Bolsheviks captured Riga, 1919; in India, the National Con-

> and Gandhi was arrested, 1932; the liner Atlantique caught fire off Cherbourg, and 18 members of the crew lost their lives, 1933; the first chart of pop music was published in the US by the Billboard, 1936; the British Fifth Army in Italy attacked Monte Cassino, 1944; Burma became an independent republic, 1948; a strike of barbers' assistants in Copenhagen ended after 33 years, 1961; Pope Paul VI began a tour of the Holy Land, 1964; Rose Heilbron became the first woman to sit as a judge at the Old Bailey, London,

gress was declared illegal,

Today is the Feast Day of St Elizabeth Bayley Seton, St Gregory of Langres, St. Pharaildis, St Rigobert of Rheims and St Roger of

CHURCH APPOINTMENTS

have been announced by the Church of England:

The Rev Michael Chiett, Team Vicar, Wenlock Team Ministry (Hereford); to be Priest-in-Charge, Canon Pyon with King's Pyon, and Birley, and Wellington (same docese). The Rev Brian Cole, Rector, Great and Little Dunham, Great and Little Prunsham and Sporle, and Rural Dean of Brisley and Elmham (Norwich): to be also Hanorary Canon of Norwich Cathedral (same diocese).

The Rev Mick Culler, Assistant Curale,

The following appointments

The Rev Nick Cutler, Assistant Curale, Cambridge St Philip (Ely): to be Rector, Rougham, Beyton with Hessett and Rusbbrooke (St Edmundsbury &

The Rev Martin Gray, Team Rector. Lowestoft St Margaret, and Rural Dean

(same diocese).
The Rev Geoffrey Harris, NSM Curate, Okchampton Teum (Exeter): to be Priest-In-Charge, Ashwater, Halwill, Beaworthy, Clawton and Tetcott with

Beawarthy, Clawton and Tetzott with Luffincut (same dioceses). The Rev Lesley Mathias, Curste, Oadby Colcester: to be Assistant Chaplain, United Bristol NIS Trust Giristol. The Rev Stuart Miller, Assistant Curste, Fordingbridge; and Hale with South Charford (Winchester): has been appointed Assistant Curste, Bursledon (same diocese). appointed Assistant Curate, Bursledon tsame dioceser. The Rev Rachel Montgomery, Assistant Curate, Tufnell Park St George and All Saints (London): to be Vicar, Bethnal Green St James the Less terms diocesel.

Bethnal Green St James the Less teame diocesei. The Rev Nicola Morgan, Assistant Curate, Lillington St Mary Magdalene (Coventry): to be Curate-in-Charge, Gospel Lane St Michael (Birmingham). The Rev Richard Press, Priest-in-Charge, Rowde and Poulshot (Salisbury): bas been appointed also Priest-in-Charge, Brombann, Chitice and Sandy Lane teame diocesse). The Rev Joanna Ray, Diocesan Chaplain among Deaf People, and Team Vicar, Leicester Holy Spirit (Leicester): to be Chaplain, St Andrew's Mental Hospital (Peterborough). The Rev Richard Thompson, Deputy Chuplain, HMP Norwich (Norwich): to be Chaplain, EMP Wayland tsome diocese).

diocese).
The Rev Trevor Thorold, Priest-inCharge, Petton with Cockshutt,
Weshampton and Lyneal with Cotmere,
and Area Local Ministry Adviser (Lichfield): to be also Rural Dean of
Filtenesses, terms discount. Ellesmere (same diocese).
The Rev Peter Turnball, part-time Chaplain, HMP Dorchester (Salisburhas been appointed NSM Assistant Curate, Rural Deanery of Sherborne (page 1474).

Curate, tural Descripto, issue diocese).
The Rev Bob Whittle, Chaplain to the Deaf, RAD Survey (Guildford): to be Priest-in-Charge, Walton on the Hill, and Cheplain among Deaf People (sar

RESIGNATIONS and RETTREMENTS

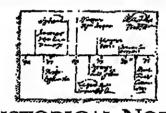
The Ven Alan Clarkson, Archdeneon of Winchester, and Honorary Canon of Win-chester Cuthedral, and Vicar, Burley Ville (Winchester); to retire 28 February. twinchester); to retire 28 February.
The Rev Peter Dodd, Chaplain, Castle
Hill Hospital (York): retired November
1938, with permission to officiate.
The Rev Malcolm Extes, Vicar,
Bridlington Emmanuel (York): retired 8
December.

December.
Canon Eric Hamiyn, Rector, Boxford;
Diocesan Adviser for Glergy Training,
and Honorary Canon of St. Edmundsbu
and Ipswich Cathedral (St. Edmundsbu
å Ipswich: retired I January.
The Rev Roger Stirrup, Team Rector,
Ross Team Ministry (Hereford): to
retire 30 Mars.

RECORDERS

The following have been appointed Recorders, on the North Eastern Circuit:

Mr Stephen John Ashurst, Mrs Jill Mar-garet filack QC, Miss Beatrice Maud Bolton; Judge Graham Cliffe; Miss Angela Catherine Finnerty; Mr Roger Ibbotsyn; Judge Anthony Theor Lan-caster; Miss Deborah Ann Sterwin; Mr Peregrine Charles Hugo Simon QC and Mr Duncan Smith.



HISTORICAL NOTES

Not a sexist but a feminist avant la lettre

IS IT true that poets die in 1837, having barely reached as were the young women he one of those artists of huge promise such as Chatterton, Arriaga, Keats and Wilfred Owen who were tragically cut down before reaching the age of 30. Had he foreseen his life, none of it would have surprised him, for his favourite philosophers were the gloomy Schopenhauer and von Hartmann, and he took the universe to be an irony practised against its own inhabitants. He was born in 1860 at Mon-

tevideo, but was brought up in a boarding school in the south of France, on the other side of the ocean from his parents. Laforgue was thus effectively "orphaned" at the age of eight. From 1881 to 1886, he expe-

rienced some good fortune, as the official French Reader to Augusta, Empress of Germany. Early in 1886 he began to have English lessons from the young Leah Lee. Jules used to say, There are three sexes ... men, women and Englishwomen," and he meant it as a compliment to Englishwomen. He left Germany late in 1886, and married Leah in London on New Year's Eve, in freezing weather At some point, he had caught tuberculosis. Poverty-stricken and exhausted, he died in Paris

young? Jules Laforgue was his 27th hirthday. Leah did not survive him long. She died, also of TB, nine months later. None the less, in his relatively short life Laforgue had al-

ready done enough to create something of a revolution in poetry. He is one of the founders of modernism, and was a major influence on British and American poetry. Eliot, Pound, Hart Crane and Wallace Stevens all admired him. But his fellowcountrymen are more standoffish. Is this because of his squeamish "Will I? Won't she?" attitude to sex; or his blackly ironic world-view, or his facetiousness: or even his taste for gaudy and strident clashes of emotion? Is it because the French have always claimed to understand "I'nmour"? The French attitude is partly cynical, partly idealist-romantic. Laforgue's cynicism and ideal-

ism about love are equally

intense, but he melts with com-

passion rather than hurning with passion. It is true that poems such as "Our Little Companion" ("I'm Woman everyone knows me") sound, in modern terms, overtly sexist. But we must put Laforgue into the context of his society. He was the victim of the

locked-down morals of his time,

tried to court and not to court in his own special way. But he was in fact a feminist avant la lettre. He declared quite explicitly that it was time for women to become "our hrothers, our bosom friends, with no ulterior motive of exploitation".

There is no stronger personality in any poetry, and certainly the early T.S. Eliot adopted his manner wholesale, so that many an Eliot poem seems almost like an English translation of Laforgue. No poet has handled irony with more panache. He is continually sending up the most solemn things, such as love, the universe, the French language, and above all himself.

For Laforgue, poetry was the record of life, lived through changing moments. You have to run to keep up with his moods, as he shifts from mock grandiose to colloquial, from sarcasm to despair, from pity to a shrug. Experience, for him, is as various as a set of Impressionist paintings taken of the same scene. And he was intensely fond of the Impressionists' oeuvre.

Graham Dunstan Mortin is the translator of Jules Laforgue's 'Selected Poems' (Penguin Classics, £9.99)

ABSENT FROM all those WORDS round-ups of books of the year was Anthony Bur-CHRISTOPHER gess's hefty, posthumous, HAWTREE instantly companionable volume of essays One fire-new, adj. Man's Chorus. Among them

is a piece about a set used by Browning in 1842. It also figures in Richard III. "fire-new from the printer" - of the second edition Oddly, this baking term of the OED, a phrase therehas fallen from use while in recorded as last being brand-new survives, even

less familiar to most of us than toast and croissants, As for spanking new, the origins are unclear possibly an echo of the Danish spanke, to strut, while span new goes back to the 14th century, a shortening of the Old Norse for new chip. A digression to warm the great Burgess's shade.

though branding-irons are

Post Gazette announcements to the Gazette Editor, The Independent, telephone 0171-293 2012 (24-hour answering machine 0171-293 2011) or fax to 0171-293 2010. Please give a daytime telephone number.

Today's special: the dried bran and water diet

I HAVE been thinking a lot about die every year from diseases food lately. This is because I am not related to obesity, and the nation getting any. My wife, you see, recently put me on a diet after suggesting (a little unkindly, if you ask me) that I was beginning to look like something Richard Branson would try to get airborne.

It is an interesting diet of her own devising, which essentially allows me to eat anything I want so long as it contains no fat, cholesterol, sodium or calories. and isn't tasty.

In order to keep me from starving altogether, she went to the supermarket and bought everything that had "bran" in its title. I am not sure, but I believe I had bran cutlets for dinner last night. I am very

Obesity is a serious problem in America. (Well, serious for fat people anyway.1 Half of all adult Americans are overweight and more than a third are defined as obese (ie, big enough to make you think twice before getting in a lift with them).

Now that hardly anyone smokes, it has taken over as the number one bealth fret in the country. About 300,000 Americans

e started painting

together as an ex-

periment. We got married at the end

at college but it was a difficult time

after we finished art college. Sud-

denly nobody was interested in

what we were doing and we had to

try to make a living. We used to sit

around drawing on the same bit of

paper wondering what to do, and out

of that grew the idea of trying to do

the same pictures. For a year we

both taught - living on one salary and saving the other.

process is achieving a shared vision

and we talk a lot before starting. It

was not so easy at first, and there

were times when I had to fight for

an idea and Les couldn't seem to

grasp it. That made for tensions, cer-

tainly, but the best pictures have

come from a hlending of our two

ideas, and the great thing about

spending so much time together is

that we have a big bank of shared

references. Even when we are work-

ing on the picture alone we know

how the other person wants it to be.

beginning was the fact we had dif-

ferent styles so we used spray paint-

ing for the first ten years because

that creates a uniformity. We moved

on to brushes because we had come

much closer in style. So now I might

paint one part of a canvas, standing

next to Les, and be another bit and

you wouldn't know we were differ-

The worst hit about working to-

gether is having Les come up and

stand behind me after I've been in

the studio all day going "It's not

right." On those occasions I'm ready

to strangle Les. But the other side

ent artists.

One of the hardest things in the

A lot of the working together

Fionula

spends \$100bn treating illnesses arising from overeating diabetes, heart disease, high blood pressure, cancer, and so on. I hadn't realized it, but being overweight can increase your chance of getting colon cancer -

and this is a disease you really don't want to have - by as much as 50 per cent, (Ever since I read that, I keep imagining a proctologist examining me and saying: "Wow. Just how many cheeseburgers have you had in your life, Mr Bryson?") Being overweight also substantially reduces your chances of surviving surgery, not to mention getting a decent date.

Above all, it means that people who are theoretically dear to you will call you "Mr Blimpy" and ask you what you think you are doing every time you open a cupboard door and, entirely by accident, remove a large bag of Cheez Doodles.

The wonder to me is how anyone can be thin in this country. We went to a restaurant the other night where they were promoting something called

"Skillet Sensations". Here (and every word of this is true) is the menu's description of the Chilli Cheese Tater Skillet:

"We start this incredible combination with crispy, crunchy waffle fries. On top of those we generously ladle spicy chilli, melted Monterey Jack and cheddar cheeses, and pile high with tomatoes, green onions, and sour cream."

You see what I am up against? And this was one of the more modest offerings. The most depressing thing is that my wife and children can eat this stuff and not put on an ounce. When the waitress came, my wife said: "The children and I will have the De Luxe Supreme Goo Skillet Feast, with extra cheese and sour cream, and a side order of onion rings with hot fudge sauce and biscuit gravy."

"And for Mr Blimpy here?" "Just bring him some dried hran and a glass of water" When the following morning over a breakfast of oat flakes and chaff, I expressed to my wife the opinion that this was, with all

respect, the most stupid diet I

had ever come across, she told

me to find a better one, so I went to the library. There were at least 150 books on diet and nutrition -Dr Berger's Immune Power Diet. Straight Talk About Weight Control, The Rotation Diet-but they were all a little earnest and bran-obsessed for my tastes. Then I saw one that was precisely of the type I was looking for By Dale M Atrens. PhD, it was called Don't Diet. Now here was a title I could

work with. Relaxing my customary aversion to consulting a book by anyone so immensely pratty as to put "PhD" after his name (I don't

put PhD after my name on my books, after all - and not just because I don't have one), I took the book to that reading area that libraries put aside for people who are strange and have nowhere to go in the afternoons but none the less are not quite ready to be institutionalized, and devoted myself to an bour's reflective study.

The premise of the book if I understood it correctly (and forgive me if I am a little sketchy on some details, but I was distracted by the man next to me, who was having a quiet chat with a person from the next dimension), is that the human body has been programmed by aeons of evolution to pack on adipose tissue for insulating warmth in periods of cold, padding for comfort, and energy reserves in times of crop failures.

The human body - mine in particular, evidently - is extremely good at doing this. Tree shrews can't do it at all. They must spend every waking moment eating. "This may be wby tree shrews have produced so little great art or music," Atrens quips. Ha! Ha! Ha! Then

shrew eats leaves, whereas I eat Ben and Jerry's double chocolate fudge ice cream.

The other interesting thing Atrens points out is that fat is exceedingly stubborn. Even when you starve yourself half to death, the body shows the greatest reluctance to relinquish its fat reserves.

Consider that each pound of fat represents 5,000 calories about what the average person eats in total in two days. That means that if you starved yourself for a week - ate nothing at all - you would lose no more than 31: pounds of fat, and, let's face it, still wouldn't look a picture in your swimming

Having tortured yourself in this way for seven days, naturally yon would slip into the pantry when no one was looking and eat everything in there but a bag of chickpeas, and gain back all the loss, plus - and here's the crux - a little something extra, because now your body knows that you have been trying to starve it and are not to be trusted, so it bad better lay in a

again, it may be because the tree little extra wobble in case you get any more foolish notions. This is why dieting is so frustrating and hard. The more you try to get rid of your fat, the more ferociously your body holds on to it.

So I have come up with an ingenious alternative diet. I call it the Fool-Your-Body-20-Hour-a-Day Diet.

The idea is that for 20 hours in each 24 you ruthlessly starve yourself, but at four selected intervals during the day - for convenience we'll call them breakfast, lunch, dinner and midnight snack - you feed your body something like a plate of sausage, chips and beans. or a large bowl of double chocolate fudge ice cream, so that it doesn't realize that you are starving it.

Brilliant, eh? I don't know why I didn't think of this years ago. I think it may be that all this hran has cleared my head. Or something.

Extracted from Notes from a Big Country by Bill Bryson, published by Doubleday at £16.99. Available from all major bookshops or by mail order on

Portrait of a marriage

A FAMILY AFFAIR

Fionula Boyd, 54, and Les Evans, 53, met at St Albans art college. When neither could find work separately as painters they started working on joint pictures and, 25 years later, they still work as a team. Their paintings — always signed Boyd and Evans — have been exhibited worldwide and are shown regularly at the Angela Flowers' gallery in London. They have two children Jack, 29, a journalist and Ruby, 27, in television production. They live in Milton Keynes



is something quite wonderful when I can't see what is wrong and Les can, then it's much quicker than worrying through the process yourself. We don't feel strongly about who puts the first line or splotch of paint terribly good idea, and the other just on to a canvas because we really do doesn't feel it and there are times

want to achieve a joint signature when I think Les is being a complete where people see a Boyd and Evans picture not our individual bits. If it's a big picture I might put one thing on the canvas, Les something else and then we might work side by side doing other parts at the same time. It all sounds terribly harmonious but we can't always reach agreement. One of us will think something is a

pig. And if he is working on the other half of a painting with me and I want to let off steam he is very aware of it. Often we simply can't carry on and things get tense. We will end up disagreeing about everything - even what's on the radio or when to stop for a cup of tea.

of the children and each desperately

think our higgest achievement was to survive that time. It was so hard not to be resentful that you couldn't have time in the studio. I'd look in the window of the studio and see Les reading the paper and think what the bloody bell is he doing? Or if he was looking after the kids and one got its head stuck in a cupboard and was When we were sharing the care screaming and Les could have heard it I'd be furious and think -

leave the kids. But then we would come together to work out something to do with a painting and although I wouldn't call it therapy we had to resolve relationship problems because everything would have fallen apart otherwise

Going to the rainforest in Brunei to paint was a watershed for us. We had to loosen up the way we were working and be more direct. We sat wanting to paint it was awful. I can't even go into the studio and under the same big umbrella

Continued from page 1

Tennis stars have advertised rac-

We are planning to go to America this year, doing work for an exhibi-Sometimes we wonder whether we could still produce pictures without each other. Are we separate people or are we too scared to put ourselves working alone, but not as much as I want to be with Les. He is such a great friend and, whatever has happened through the years, we have never been bored with each others' company.

ben we are working together on the same picture in the studio there are technical matters we have to agree on - simple things like how to touch it. A big picture would wobble if, say, Nula was doing something to the sky on the right with big strokes pushing hard to get paint into canvas, and I'm doing a figure in fine detail the other side. But we work things out. On a very big landscape Nula starts at one end, I start in the middle and we both move to the left.

There are times when I'll take over a picture and not be happy with what she has done but we've learned that the really important thing is to try to be reasonable and think about bow the other one will feel. Of course it isn't always easy and one of the tough things about working side by side is if your partner gets frustrated. When that happens with Nula I always feel responsible and

An absolutely key thing is discussing colours and getting them right. But we both have our own paint trolleys and they are sacred I wouldn't touch Nula's because she might go mad, and she wouldn't come near mine because it is so messy.

We didn't stop to think what having children would mean to us as artists but certainly the hardest

painting in oils like impressionists. time was when they were little. We couldn't afford to have anyone look after the children so we tried to be tion in Los Angeles next November. very fair to each other about dividing the time. We tried one of us painting in the mornings, the other in the afternoons. When that didn't work we tried alternate days, and then we on the line? Sometimes I want to try experimented with one week on, one week off. None of it really worked because we became like two separate artists. I would go into the studio and come out saying this is what I've been thinking about, and we would talk it through and I would think Nula understood, but somehow when she went off and worked alone her own the idea would turn into something completely different and I wouldn't know where it had come from. By the time I got back

to the studio I would feel frantic. The paintings we did at this time was useless because our whole way of working and thinking was turned upside down. There was no flow and everything seemed to take so long. And of course the tension over that bounced through the whole relationship and we got very good at picking on ridiculous things and turning them into a row. Yet the amazing thing was that we did manage to stay co-operative over the paintings. I think we both realised this was too important to destroy.

The rainforest was a very important time for us because we could stop, be very quiet and think And it was just wonderful being up the river with no post, no phone, just working every day. We were very close there.

After the last show there were things we didn't like and we talked about the possibility of not working together. But once we realised that we didn't have to work together. things seemed easier. Now, with the children grown up and trips like the rainforest possible, Nula and I feel in many ways that we are only just beginning our work together

> INTERVIEWS BY ANGELA NEUSTATTER

CLASSIFIED

INSOLVENCY ACT 1986 LIMACREST LIMITED MACKEST LIMITED NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the insolvency Act 1989, that a Meeting of Creditors of the above named Company will be held at Cork Gutly, Benson House, 33 Wellington Street, Leeds LSI 4IP, on 14th January 1999, at 10 ISanfor the purposes mentioned in Sections 99 to 101 of the said Act. a test of two names and addresses; the Sections 99 to 10 to 10 to 3 and 24. A list of the names and addresses of the Company's Creditors may be inspected free of charge between 10.00cm and 5.00cm at Corts Gully, Benson House, 33 Wellington Street, Leeds LS1 4JP, on the two

Individual remains attending in person) ensure their proxies are received at Cork Gulty. Bestson House, 33 Wellington Steet. Locak LSI AIP, no later Iban midday on the business day preceding the date

Dated this 23rd day of December 1998 By Order of the Board P. J. O'Brien Director PETTY SESSIONAL OFFISION OF

LICENSING ACT 1964
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR THE
PROVISIONAL GRANT OF A
JUSTICES LICENCE TO all of whom a many rotocrus.

To all of whom a many rotocrus.

Int Ponter Broginal Parel of 1 Wenling View, S., Album, there, having during the gost at mouths eartied on the trade or calling of Retailer and cospectively. Do Feerfew gloc Notice that is not instrument or copyly at the Tomanier Sections to be that at the General House. Own Centre. St. Phiers Street, S. Albums on Dals Hammaria to me of a Prontice. License for the sale of the manuspition of the Provisional Great to the Manuspition of the Provisional Great Tomanisation of the Provisional Great Tomanisa

CORALLIN LIMITED NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above-named Company will be beld on 6 Junuary 1990 at 11 am at The White Harn, Sridge Street, Andover, Hampskire SP10 18H, for the purposes mentioned in Section 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act. said Act.
Pursuant to section 98(2)(b) of

Legal Notices

Pursuant to section 98(2)(b) of the Act, a list of the names and addresses of the company's creditor will be available for inspection. Iree of charge at Levy Gee, 4th Floor, Southfield House, I Liverpool Gardens, Worthing, West Sussex, BM11 IRY on the two bruiness days preceding the date of the meeting, between the hours of 11,00m and 4,00pm. Dated this 23rd day of December Dated this 23rd day of December Martin Kelly, Director. David Brook, Director.

INTEGRATED PUBLISHING LTD Tradies from Unit 36, 44-46 Terrace Road Waltes-on-Thatses Sarrey ET12 2SO

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 98 of the insolvency Act. 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above-named of the creditors of the above-named company will be held at 8 Baker Street, Lundon WIM IDA, on 5th January, 1999, at 10,00 hrs, for the purposes mentioned in Seniors 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act. 100 and 101 of the said Act.

Raymond Hecking and Malcolm
Cohen of BDO Stoy Hayward. 8
Baker Street. Landers WiM IDA, are
qualified to act as Insofeestry
Practitioners in relation to the above,
and will furnish creditors free of
charge: with such information
procuring the company's affairs as is
canomably required.

Partal Vist December 1608. Dated 21st December, 1998.

By order of The Board.

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the insolvency Act 1986 that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above-named Company will be above-named Company will be beld at 2 Nelson Street, Southend-on Sea, Essex, SSI 1EF on 8 January 1998 at 10,30am for

the purposes mentioned in Section 99 to 101 et sea of the said Act. Peter Lawrence, of Moore Stephens Booth White, 2 Nelson Street, Southend-On Sea, Essex SSI IEF will furnish Creditors, free of charge, with such information concerning the Company's affairs as they may reasonably require. Dated 24th December 1998. By Order of the Board.

PNEUMATIC POWER JURO THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the landward Act. 1986, that a meeting Insolvency Act. 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held as the offices of Poppleton and Appleby. 32 High Street. Manchester M4 100, on Tieseday Std January, 1999, at 12:00 noon, for the purposes mentioned in Sections 90, 100 and 101 of the said Act.

ACL
Pursuant to Section 98, Subsection
12) (a) of the Act, Mr Stephen Lord
of Popoleton and Applety, 32 High
Street, Manchester M4 100 is
appointed to act as the Qualified
Insoftence Practitioner who will
furnish concitions with such see require. Dated the 17th day of December 1998. By Order of the Board. B Aiston, Director

(E)

Legal Notices

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE CHANCERY DIVISION COMPANIES COURT IN THE MATTER OF WORLD AVIATION SUPPORT LIMITED AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 9th December 1988 confirming the Justice (Chancery Division) duted 9th December 1980 configuring the reduction of the capital of the above named conquery from £1,700,000 to £300,000 by the cancellation of 1,460,000 Ordinary Shares of £1 each and the Minnte approved by the Court showing with respect to the capital of the Company as altered the Several particulary required by the above-mentioned Act were registered by the Registrar of Companies on the 25nd December 1978.

Dated 29th the of December 1908.

Dated 29th day of December 1998 Maxwell Batter, 27 Chancery Lane, London WCZA 1BA. Solicitus for the above passed Company The insolvency Act 1986 THE MAPLE GROUP

LTD NOTICE IS HEREBY CIVEN pursuant NOTICE IS HERRBY GMEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1985 that a MEXING of the CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held on 16th Isrosary 1999 at The Old Balery, Lower Gover Read, Royston, Hers, at 12.00 noon for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 et say of the said Act. NOTICE IS FURTHER CIVEN that Mastere Raymond Domington, FIPA of Poppetern & Applieby, 4 Createrhouse Square, London. ECHM 6EM is appointed to act as the qualified insolvency Practitioner pursuant to Serum 98/CRIA of the said Act. who will furnish creditions, free of charge, with such minimishion contemping the Company's aftern as they may reasonably require. Direct the Board

By Order of the Board I Handing, Omector

In The High Court of Justic No. 006555 of 1995 CHANCERY DIVISION COMPANIES COURT

IN THE MATTER OF BRITISH WORLD AVIATION LIMITED AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985 THE COMPANIES ACT 1988
NOTICE IS HERBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Devident dured the 9th day of December 1998, confirming the reduction of the capital of the showt-named Company from \$10,879,400 to \$45,07,400 by the cancellation of 60,200,000 the period States of 10 each and the Minute approved by the Court showing with respect to the capital of the Company of altered the several particulars required by the short-mentioned Act were registered by the Registers of Companies on 25ad December, 1994. Diseast this 78th days of December, 1994.

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AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985 COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Coors of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 9th December 1998 confirming the reduction of the entire of the editor of the entire of the captain of the captain of AUTA,000 by the encoditum of AUTA,000 by the encoditum of AUTA,000 by the encoditum of Each and the Minute approved by the Cont aboving with respect to the capital of the Contraly and the Each and the several particular required by the above-mentioned Act were registered by the Registers of Companies on the 2500 December 1998.

Dated 29th day of December 1988

Dated 29th day of December 1998 Marwell Barley, I? Changery Lane.
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Birthday Greetings reses. Wy fore shreys. HP an extremely Happy Birthds to you. With all my love. To advertise in this section

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The ad man's new pitch

quets and balls for ever and Pete Sampras - handsome but wooden - citing the virtues of Babilot strings by saying "It's the best string that's made; that's why I use it", hardly belongs in the same universe as Nike and Adidas. Umbro, the market leader in football strips, has a somewhat ety of people. The mix of motives between utility, display and trib-

ambiguous position in all this. Football strips, as David Mellor can testify are worn for real - and unreal - reasons by a great varialism is rich and thick. And Umbro can be a brilliant advertiser. They produced a beautiful TV commercial around the time of the European Cup, working the theme of heart and soul with an ad set in a well-observed but picturesque South American slum where everything but everything hangs on the Big Match on TV. The moral - one I'll return to - is it's right for real people (that is, poor outsiders) to give their

bearts to football. But there's more to be seen outside the arena than in it. Because outside the arena, some of the biggest advertisers in the world have been muscling in on sports quite massively. Strongly child and teen-orientated adver-

tisers like Coca-Cola, McDon-high-spend heroics. It's a role that alds and Pizza Hut - laddish but, objectively, profoundly unsporty have bought up every relevant sportsman with a pulse. The media increasingly see sport as key to the building of "brand personality". The most dramatic, religiose appropriation of this kind came in a Sky Sports commercial (the first in a series of increasingly ambitious and expensive promotions), in which Sean Bean, actor and footballer manque, strode about a football pitch describing the beautiful game as "art, drama, religion, everything" to the fans, saying that we - meaning Sky understood because we felt that way too. It was breathtaking in its cheek - Bean came across like the leader of the Peasant's Revolt. The "we understand" was presumably to underline Sky Sport's dedicated role for sports nuts the viewer who doesn't want their media diet interrupted by news, drama or documentary - as quite distinct from those unfocused, old terrestrial channels.

As Robert Campbell, a leading London creative director, said recently: "It's easy to sell a football script to a client. Everyone thinks football sells; it's the new safe thing to do." Sports advertising involves its clients in just this kind of safe, high-profile,

can be parlayed into a lot of foreign trips, big parties and celebrity-hopping. With many of these sports sponsorships and themes. the heart rules the head and the task of brand-building consistency gets lost in the boyish blur.

in the real world there has to be a backlash. The Times' political feature writer Matthew Parris recently complained that sport was exerting an unhealthy dominance in polite conversation. It was all too much. Why, he said, he'd even noticed that gay men had started talking about football as to the manner born. And be'd become a homosexual to get away from that kind of thing.

This is a shortened version of an essay which appears in Winning: The Design of Sports', edited by Sue Andrew, published by Laurence King at £19.95. Readers of The Independent' can buy copies at the special price of £15 (including P&P). Phone Laura Willis on 0171-831 6351, fax nn order to 0171-831 8356 or e-mail

laura@calmann-king.co.uk An exhibition, Winning: The Design of Sports' opens on 8 January of the MacLellan Galleries, 270 Sauciehall Street, Glasgon

Deborah Ross is on holiday

s we did at the time ause our while way iere was no flow and ned to take so mos ae tension over that gh the whole telae got very good at iculous trines and nto a row. Yet the ras that we did manoperative over the ik we both reason portant to destroy test was a very for us because we ery quiet and thak wonderful being of) post, no ohone. [65]

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atened version with to appears 17 11 11 11 esign of Sports mineral proing at £19.95 Kend ndependent con the especie, printing P&Pi. Phone Land 171-33: 6351. 71-831 X256 CF (Free! nann-king.co.la SHOT WITH SE Sports spend 70 Saucre Call Service



NETWORK

Something evil in your inbox

E-mail is rapidly becoming many people's preferred method of communication. But its growing popularity also brings the potential for abuse - both Steve Crawshaw, writing below, and Steve Phillips,

right, have experienced the darker side of cyberspace

had been looking forward to the day wheo we would get e-mail at home. Receiving electronic postcards from friends and colleagues around the world - what could be more pleasant?

I duly registered with the choseo service provider. So far, so simple, A few hours later. I logged on for a quick stumble around the Internet. To my surprise, a disembodied voice informed me: "You've got mail." Who could have writteo to me already? What drama, what excitement! I eagerly double-clicked to discover what the postman had dropped on the electronic hall mat.

And there the surprises began. In the subject field, the messages had titles like "Replying to your message", and equally innocuous stuff. Inside, almost all the messages offered teen sex, in terms that would make a Central London phone kiosk blush. (Oo a machine that was - theoretically - bought primarily for the use of my 12-year-old daughter.)

To start with, my experience made me assume that all e-mail subscribers are deluged with unwanted messages in this way. I thought that spam - tunk e-mail, which piles up in lorryloads on your electronic doorstep - must be an inevitable

Almost all of the messages offered teen sex – on a machine bought primarily for the use of my 12-year-old daughter

condition of the wired world. Then I discovered that it is oot quite as inevitable - at least not in such quantity - as I had thought. Few computer-owners seem to have the problems that we do: several hardcore propositions a day. And those who do have one thing in common: the service provider that they use.

Early in my researches, when I mentioned the problem to a computer-savvy acquaintance, ber first clairvoyant questioo took me aback. "Are you with AOL?" Er, yes, actually. "I thought so." AOL sells itself on its user-friendliness, and is currently marketing itself as being ideal for the first steps on the Net. But it fails to mention its attractiveness to professional spammers, too. As Richard Baguely, deputy editor of Internet magazine, points out: "AOL is a particular target because it has 14 mil-

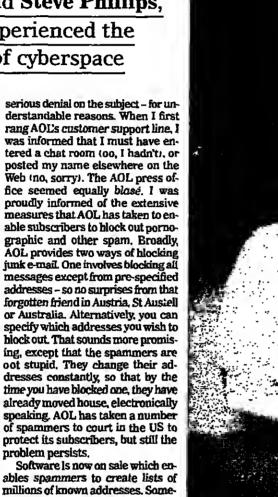
lion users. It would not be an exaggeration to say that AOL appears to he in

serious denial on the subject - for understandable reasons. When I first rang AOL's customer support line, I was informed that I must have entered a chat room (oo, I hadn't), or posted my name elsewhere on the Web (no, sorry). The AOL press office seemed equally blose. I was proudly informed of the extensive measures that AOL has taken to enable subscribers to block out pornographic and other spam. Broadly, AOL provides two ways of blocking junk e-mail. One involves blocking all messages except from pre-specified addresses - so no surprises from that forgotten friend in Austria, St Austell or Australia. Alternatively, you can specify which addresses you wish to block out. That sounds more promising, except that the spammers are oot stupid. They change their addresses constantly, so that by the time you have blocked one, they have already moved house, electronically speaking. AOL has taken a number of spammers to court in the US to protect its subscribers, but still the problem persists.

millions of known addresses. Sometimes, however, they only need to

will, and that is all that matters. Theoretically, you can respond to banner and got in touch, and bere such e-mails, demanding to be taken off the spammer's list. But few specialists recommend that you do so. As Richard Baguely notes: "It's useful for them to know that this address is genuine, and that the message has been read." Sit tight, say nothing, and hope that they will go away, is gen-

erally reckoned to be the best advice. Powerful oew software is said to be on the way which will make it easier to block the spammers. But I am seems to believe that it has the problem under control. As for me. I've had enough. Sure, AOL has lots of features that make it simple to use. But I am off to quieter pastures, where the spammers may find the pickings less rewarding. In this case, big seems to be ugly. I could do with



pluck subscribers' names out of the stratosphere. Many spam e-mails are not even addressed to me in the header field. Instead, the main addressee may bave an alphabetically similar name - craval, crawf, even crawlyman. Sometimes, the main addressee is a beap of jumbled figures and numbers; g2t3x5, or similar. Either way, it seems that my name is huried deep on the "bcc" list of "blind-copy" addressees, invisible to the person receiving the e-mail. The computer takes alphabetical pot luck: if the addressee exists, then my face. It was two years since we bingo! If the addressee does not exist, then the message is simply bounced back. The seoder of the messages is not bothered if millions of cyberporn messages do oot get through; some



E-mail abuse from a woeful spell-checker

arrived at my inbox at work, it brought a smile to advertised our house oo the Web. When it was sold soon afterwards, by more conventional means, I let the Web estate agent know, but the advert remained online. Once in a while, somebody missed the "Sold"

This message, however, was different. A page of bizarre insults about the house, quite a bit of random swearing, followed by an offer - would I swap the house for a night with his wife?

was another one.

The author, a Mr Zachopoulos, was using an e-mail address provided by Hotmail, the free e-mail service owned hy Microsoft, so there was no clue to his location. A few reluctant to wait that long. AOL hours later he followed up with another message. Had I considered his more than generous offer? I decided. perhaps foolishly, to respond. I told him that I found his messages offensive, and that I would forward

them to Hotmail The Hotmail website gave me an address for complaints about unwanted e-mail, and within minutes

hen an e-mail ti- of sending the messages, back came tled Your Property a reply from their auto-respond system. There was a lot of information about how good Hotmail is at stopping misuse of their mail accounts, and a promise to reply to me as soon as possible. They never did.

The next day, Mr Zachopoulos changed his name to Mr Wrench, and came back with more streams of abuse from the same Holmail address. Later on, another message arrived from a Carl Smith, with an e-mail address of snrmanagement@hotmail.com. He told me that the culprit, a German schoolboy using his father's account, bad been traced and the account removed. He hoped that I could forgive him. Carl's message contained a lot

of spelling mistakes. Three days later, it started again. The e-mail address had changed to ooe provided by postmasterco.uk, but the abuse was the same, if not worse. I found the complaints address at Postmaster, and forwarded the message to them. Back came a reply promising to look into it. That

was the last I heard from them. The next two hours brought a further eight messages. First of all, a warning from Carl Smith that the culprit had started to use a new Hotmail address, and that they were

continuing to monitor him. Oddly enough though, this time the message was signed by Carl Thomas. Then there were three messages from the new address, more obscenities, this time signed by Andy K. Then another from Carl

Smith/Thomas, assuring me that they were doing all they could to trace the messages. Another thought came to me. Hotmail is based in the United States, oo the West Coast - how come all these nice people were working so hard when they should be in bed? When I tried to cootact them by phone, even the fax machine was turned off. A few minutes later, more

garbage arrived, with my own name in the "from" box. But underneath it, the e-mail address was still the latest Holmail ooe.

Finally, to round the day off, a Mr Fielding of foreignenquiries@hotmail.com informed me that the culprit had been traced and was now being arrested "for Internet crimes". He also mentioned that I would be entitled to compensation for my troubles. Unfortunately, Mr Fielding seemed to have the same spelling problem as Carl. By oow I

was intrigued. Who was this pest? For the next few days, the swearing stopped, but the messages from site (www.ripe.net) where you can

Carl continued. Apparently, as well find out who an IP address is alloas compensation, there was a good chance that the BBC would be using my case in a documentary about email abuse. He gave me a name at the BBC, hut a quick check with them proved that this was fictitious. Wheo I told Carl this, he turned nasty, and threatened to take my name off the list which he was sending to the producer.

At this point, I decided to try Hotmail again. I sent all the details to their Advertising Sales department, where I thought that a human might read the incoming messages. Sure enough, somebody replied, saying that they had forwarded my complaint to the Abuse department. Apart from two more auto-respond ssages, I heard no more.

Over the weekend, all went quiet, hut oo the Monday, a new record of 12 messages arrived. By now, Carl had dropped all pretence of being senior management, and he weighed in with his own stream of abuse.

A different approach was called for The header information of the messages contained an IP address, the oumber which identifies networked machines. The first three oumbers were always the same, but the fourth varied, I went to a web-

cated to. This told me that the range of addresses belonged to a UK Internet service provider. A couple of phone calls got me through to their support department. At last, a human voice who could help me. He confirmed that the addresses were those used by a number of schools on their dial-in service.

I sent him the full collection of messages, From the times of the messages and the IP addresses, he was able to pin it down to one school. The school was informed. and they began to monitor the Web activity on their computers. The next day I was told that the culprit had been identified.

That, I bope, is the end of it. Maybe I was wrong to reply in the first place - but perhaps my efforts have spared someone else the same treatment. It has certainly shown, despite their claims, how powerless the e-mail service providers are.

Maybe they are flooded with similar complaints, but at a time when I wanted to know what was going on, I heard absolutely nothing from them. Even if they did manage to close down one account, another one

If Carl ever gets a spell-checker, he might start to fool people.

Can technology bring about a kinder, more just world?

s 1998 wound down, I've been sitting around the fire a lot unbelievably, it snowed here in Silicon Valley keeping warm and thinking about technology and people.

To be sure, these are my two favourite topics. I love to lurk and watch as we burnans, admirably evolved to be hunter-gatherers, confront things like operating systems, personal digital assistants and even videorecorder displays - you know, the ones that are always blinking

"12:00 AM". One of my favorite thinkers, Freeman Dyson, believes we have a real problem at the end of the 20th Century and second Millennium. Dyson thinks technology has become a wedge driving the haves and the bave nots ever more widely apart, and writes about it in his book

lmagined Worlds. In a previous column, I wrote about how Dyson's words came

home, hard, as I sat in the deep leather seats of a friend's hi-tech, wired-to-the-max Jeep speeding past farm workers in the rain and cold of California's Central Valley. Warm and comfortable. sitting amid the many blessings of my technologically driven life, this disturbing thought returned Dyson is adept at following

events in numerous disparate fields - sociology and nuclear weaponry, astronomy and hiology, history and mechanics and weaving these threads in interesting and revealing ways. Dyson, a mathematician by training, is Professor Emeritus at Princeton University's Institute for Advanced Study, as well as a writer of popular books about science.

An unabashed supporter of the sciences, Dyson nevertheless contends that many of the ills of current American society are due to science. Drugs, guns, racial intolerance and illiteracy may be the immediate causes of our social morass, but the unwise application of science is

the deeper root. Science is a mixed blessing in Dyson's view. It grants great and god-like powers to human practitioners who, unfortunately, have a decidedly chequered record as far as the wise application of said science goes.

On the one hand, scientists create cures for polio, on the other, biological weapons. Without a well-developed moral and ethical framework to guide us, humanity is in hig trouble as our knowledge, and powers increase. Technology, the child of

science, has not favoured a kinder and more just world. In Dyson's opinion, America's ills, and those seen elsewhere in the world, result whenever the gap between rich and poor widens sufficiently.

Contrast, say, a resident of Sierra Leone, the nation at the bottom of the UN's list of livable countries, and a certain resident of the US, Bill Gates. A Sierra Leone resident makes on average \$179 a year. Bill Gates is



Families with computers and to higher education are becoming a hereditary caste

currently worth \$73,433,864,275. according to the "Titan Ticker" on Upside magazine's Web site, and his wealth has been increasing at a recent annualised rate of just over \$21bn. Poorest guy: \$179, richest guy: \$21bn today's gap makes, say,

revolutionary France look downright appealing, never mind that the gap might be the one between one's head and body.

An economist has said that Bill Gates is worth more than the 100 million or so of the poorest Americans put together. The UN says that the world's 358 hillionaires are worth more than the countries with 45 per cent of the world's population - some three billion people.

The gap hetween rich and poor is, indeed, the culprit. In absolute terms, a poor American is far better off than a poor Sierra Leonan. The American will earn much more, eat better, live longer and see more children survive to be adults than his or her African counterpart. This datum will, however, in no way reduce the frustration or sense of uselessnesa that often befalls people trapped in

American poverty. Science and technology create the machines that replace unskilled workers and the computers that replace unskilled

clerks. Computers tied into global information networks make it easy for companies to send jobs to nations with the lowest bidders, reducing dramatically the numbers of good, well-paid blue-collar jobs that once led to education for working-class children, and an all-important chance to escape

the poverty cycle. "Because of science, families with access to computers and to higher education are rapidly becoming a hereditary caste, the children inheriting these advantages from their parents,' writes Dyson. "... children deprived of legitimate opportunities to earn a living have strong economic incentives to join gangs and become criminals," Social displacement follows hard on the heels of

technological revolution. Dickens prospered by writing about the wretched plight of people displaced in the Industrial Revolution, when land and agrarian skills were quickly pushed aside by capital and

manufacturing skills as the basis of wealth. Must we repeat history as the Information Age dawns?

In my neighbourhood, most 9year-olds are computer-literate. I bought my 13-year-old nephew an iMac for Christmas. A few miles from here, nine years marks the age when kids are first being lured by gangs, and more than a few I3-year-olds either have a gun or know where to get one. Dyson reports the same grim disparity between his home town of Princeton and its neighbor, Trenton.

So what's the answer? Technology?

Steve Jobs answered that one particularly well, I'm told, at a recent education conference. Asked if technology could belo solve the problem of illiteracy, he thought for a moment, then said no, only teachers and parents

can do that. Happy New Year, all. I, for one, intend to spend the coming year looking for ways to chip away at

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h Ross is on holida

○ @ 9 0 •

MY TECHNOLOGY

WC beats PC any day

Richard O'Brien, the actor and musician, hates computers, but celebrates items as diverse as the flushing toilet, whitewall tyres, pen, paper and face cream

am a technophobe, but. as far as I'm concerned, the Industrial Revolution happened far too early. Imagine the two Great Wars without ateel, rubber, oil and so on to back them up. Imagine our streets without ears choking both them and us to death.

Technology is something that I have always shied away from, and yet I'm eternally grateful that Thomas Crapper, or whoever, invented the U-Bend water-trap lavatory. Life without that accommodating convenience doesn't bear thinking about.

Also, I'm a fervent fan of the oottle opener, especially the 'two in one" variety that whips the top off a beer and pulls the cork from a bottle of some-

The telephone has its limited appeal, Radio, cinema, TV ditto. But computers? I'm very glad that there are people out here who are attempting to tame these insidious monsters. People who can whip them into submission and get them to spit out an airline ticket.

Ob my God, there's another thing - aeroplanes. They may many people have attempted to



Richard O'Brien with his crowning giories of technological advance Neville Elder

es and strains we're subjected to? Why people include air travel in their holiday plans is

beyond my comprehension. Over the past 10 or so years,

save you from a long swim, but sell me on the various virtues what about all the other stress-of the word processor. What a load of tosh. What's wrong with a notebook and a ballpoint? Which reminds me of a talk I heard recently. The Americans

spent several scrillinns of dollars developing one .The Russians solved the same problem by using a pencil.

If we were pushed into a corner with a pointy stick and needed a ballpoint pen that asked to name the most imwould work in space and so they portant breakthrough in man's

technological advancement, most people would cry out "the wheel, the wheel". After all, that's what they taught us at school, and school's never wrong. However, if the pointy stick was jabbed in my direction, it wouldn't be the wheel that got my endorsement, wonderful though it is, especially with whitewall tyres. Nn, my vote would be for something that very few of my fellow beings would elevate above said wheel. I speak not of the microchip, nor of Teflon, Spandex or even the carburettor.

And so, without further ado. ladies and gentlemen, I give you tinted moisturiser, available in a wide range of skin tones. I won't listen to any arguments. I don't care about the sextant or even the Spinning Jenny. But, care I do for the mask of artificial bealth, and long may it remain on our shelves at reasonable prices. Shallow? Moi? Heaven forbid.

'Absolute O'Brien' (Medical Records) will be released on

> INTERVIEW BY JENNIFER RODGER

The events that shaped the Web in 1998

IF THE Web in 1997 was about the explosive growth of the online population, the Web in 1998 was about creating sites that all the visitors to the Web could actual use.

There have been several astounding and unpredictable changes in the field of Web design, but there have also been more than a few faits accomplis as the Web evolved to meet the growing demands of an increasingly diverse population. Let's look back at the events from 1998 that shaped the Web

The Browsers Like the year before, the two big players in the browser business

were Netscape's Navigator (www.netscape.com) and Microsoft's Internet Explorer (www.microsoft.com). Both browsers started 1998 with their 4.0 versinns going bead to head, with some modifications over the course of the year, but no monumental changes. Web designers still struggled to master all of the new powers at their disposal while keeping an eye on the older browsers commonly in use.

Yet in 1998 the tide turned on Netscape as it continued to lose market share to Microsoft. Netscape tried several tactics to plug the leak, including giving away not only its browser but also the code used to create it (www.independent.

co.uk/net/980407ne/story5.html. However, in the end, Netscape would have to sell itself to AOL Get's not forget that that stands for America Online) to stay in the game (www.indepen-dent.co.uk/net/981130ne/story6, html). There is no question that this will have an impact on Web design as the "killer-app" which put the Web on the map is subsumed by another company with deeper pockets.

Microsoft was not without it's own problems with Internet Explorer, but these were of a gal nature when the US government accused the company that Bill Gates built of illegally using its operating system to force its browser into the homes of every PC owner. This case has yet to be settled, and may drag on well into 1999 before we even get a preliminary decision out of the US legal system.

But 1998 also saw the emergence of a significant alternative to the hig two browsers. Although developed in 1994, the Opera browser (www.operasoftware.com) came to the attention of a wider audience this year as more and more users became disenchanted with the browser wars (www.independent.co.uk/net/980526ne/s tory4.html). Although far from perfect, Opera claims to adhere to the standards being set down by the World Wide Web Consortium (www.w3c.org), which WEB DESIGN



CRANFORD TEAGUE

is something all Web designers can appreciate.

Languages and Standards

This year saw an explosion in the number of standards being worked on by the W3C, some of which will impact Web design in the near future and some of which, well, we'll just have to wait and see. The most significant standard to be proposed - if not actually implemented in a browser yet - is the new

HTML 4.0 standard (www.independent.co.uk/net/980120ne/s torv4.html). HTML 4.0 was supposed to revolutionise the way we create Web pages. However, over a year after its introduction, it is still just a good idea. Why? Well, there are two problems: none of the browsers have implemented this stan-

did use it, there would still be a significant population of older browsers which can not use this new technology. These problems are a reoccurring theme with new Web technologies.

(www.independent.co.uk/net/98 0407ne/story8.html) had been around as a standard proposed After years of waiting, softby the W3C for a while, but it ware specially designed for was not until last year that it became a household (the Web house, that is) word. Ironically, it was not because of the the Web - which is what it was three packages tailored to the actually designed to do - but because of a much glitzier concept: Dynamic HTML software companies: Adobe's twww.independent.co.uk/net/98 Image Ready (www.adobe. 0706ne/story6.html/. CSS is the com/prodindex/ imageready/ cornerstone of DHTML, and,

combined with JavaScript can be used to do some really cool things. DHTML has been growing in popularity this year after a shaky start in 1997. But it does have some competition.

Macromedia introduced the Flash and the Flash plug-in (www.macromedia.com/software/flash/) to allow Web designers the freedom of using vector-based graphics and to create more "dynamic" Web pages (www.independent.co.uk /net/980727ne/story4.html). It bas taken off in a big way. Despite its reliance on a browser plug-in, several big name sites,

dard and, even if both browsers such as Dreamworks Records (www.dreamworksrecords. .com/), have built their sites entirely around Flash technology. Flash might well be the future of design on the Web, especially after Macromedia Cascading Style Sheets proposed it as a standard.

Software

the creation of Web graphics was released (www.independent.co.uk/net/980817ne/story5. html) in 1998.

needs of Web designers came from the three major graphic main.html), Macromedia's FireWorks (www. macromedia.com/software/fireworks/) and MetaCreation's Painter 5.5 Web Edition (www.metacreations.com/products/painter55/ Painter55.html).

These programs all offer special features geared towards the optimal creation of attractive, yet fast-downloading Web graphics. That said, Adobe's Photoshop still reigns supreme as the graphics program of choice for most professional Web designers and there is little sign that this will change.

Last year also saw the evolutinn nf aoftware used tn create Web sites. GoLive's CyberStudio (www.golive.com) came nut with its 3.0 versing, which included DHTML capabilities, while Macromedia released the 2.0 version of DreamWeaver (www.macromedia.com/software/dreamwea ver/). DreamWeaver, in fact. atarted out as a program specifically designed for the creation of DHTML and matured this year by integrating Allaire'a Homesite HTML editor (www.allaire.com) for its Window's version and BBE-dit (www.bbedit.com) for its Mac version.

Web Design in 1999? Well, if we listened to everyone who thought they knew what the future was going to be like in 1999 we should be expecting Moon Base Alpha to be breaking mut of orbit and start tear-

ing across the galaxy any minute now. But, alas, Space 1999 has not happened, and I can't promise that any predictions I could make here would be any more accurate. I can say with some certainty that we will be seeing

fore the middle of the year by both Netscape and Microsoft. Unfortunately, however, I can also guarantee that Web designers will continue to create sites for a growing multitude of different browsers, each one with its own capabilities

The more things change,

the more they stay the same.

new 5.0 browsers released be-

E-mail comments or queries to Jason Cranford Teague at indy webdesign@mind-

and quirks.

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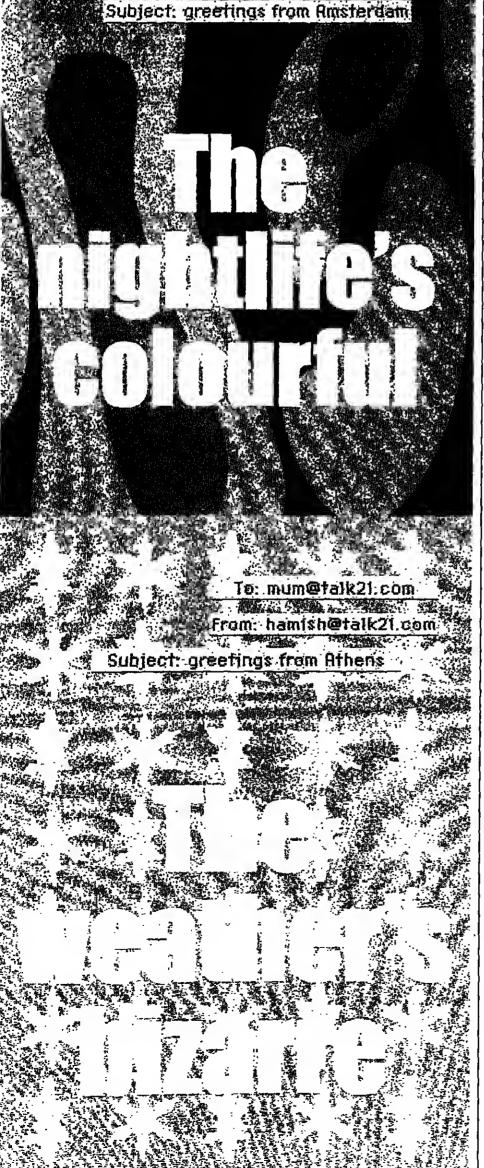
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INTERVIEW BY JENNIFER RODGER

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LARRY ELLISON, chief "This is not what this executive officer of Oracle, the world's largest database be about - difficult yes, software company, and threatening, definitely not."

owner and skipper of the US yacht Sayonara, said that it was only the skill of his 23-man crew that kept his yacht intact in last week's Sydney-Hobart race. Ellison's yacht won the 630 nautical mile race after leading from almost the start, but up to six sailors, including British Olympic sailor Glyn Charles, died in 70-plus knot gales and 20ft

"Things got extremely dangerous," Ellison said. "Guys were knocked down time and time again and kept getting up and kept getting back to work to keep the boat in one piece and keep all of us alive.

There were winds of 90 miles an hour, and huge seas sweeping the deck The wind made sounds I have never heard before,' Ellison said. "We were learning of people dying. I saw a couple of guys pretty choked up and this is a pretty tough crew."

Race organisers said a full inquiry would be held into the world's worst yachting disaster since the Fastnet race in 1979, in which 15 sailors died. Ellison, who had promised to join Ted Turner in this year's Fastnet, said he didn't know whether be would go ocean-racing again, "It will take a little time to place this in perspective," he said. "Ted did the Fastnet in '79. I want to talk to him about that. He didn't race much after that. Right now I'm not anxious to go back and do another ocean race.

[ocean racing] is suppose to dangerous no, dying and life

INTEL CONTINUED its price war with AMD and other chip manufacturers by making unscheduled. unannounced price cuts of up to 30 per cent on its Celeron processors last week and rolling out a cheaper version this week. Price cuts on the Pentium II family are expected to

AMD's K6-2 chips, typically priced between 15-25 per cent less than similarly powered Intel devices, have made significant inroads into Intel's market, particularly in the wellspecified £500 entry-level range of systems. One advantage AMD has had is lower production costs because its chips ping into cheaper motherboards based on the openstandard socket seven. Intel's Celeron has required more expensive packaging for the proprietary "Slot 1" architecture designed for

The new, lower-price Celerons, running at 366Mhz and 400Mhz, take advantage of lower chip packaging costs associated with using a new "370 Pin Socket" design which is cheaper to manufacture than Slot 1. The new design will also fit Intel's Micros ATX motherboard, which will be used in "micro-tower" systems. The smaller system boxes, which fit

the Pentium II range.

BYTES

ANDY OLDFIELD

more easily on to typical desktops, are around six inches shorter than standard mini-tower units.

AOL, THE biggest Internet service provider (ISP) in the world, reached a landmark 15 million members in its home country last month - an the previous month. Christmas day saw the up in a single day in the online giant's history. According to research

Intelligence, by November **AOL** (excluding its CompuServe subsidiary) served one million more bome users than all the US local ISPs combined. At the beginning of the year, AOL had eight million members compared with 12 millioo for local ISPs. Among business users AOL also outperformed local ISPs with a 32 per cent share against 29.9.

MICROSOFT HAS filed suits in Texas seeking injunctions against two companies it says are

Trademarkdomains.com are accused of "cybersquatting", registering well-known company domains and attempting to sell them on to the companies. Microsoft's warplaint listed 10 disputed domains with names such as microsoftkids.com,

increase of one million over most new members signing

carried out hy ZD Market

temporary and permanent infringing its trademarks. TexasRGV.com and

windowsfiles.com and microsoftoffice.com. "Microsoft is one of the most well-known and

admired companies in the world. No one, on the Internet or off, should be permitted to benefit from using Microsoft's trademarks to mislead the public," Steve Aeschbacher, a Microsoft attorney, said. "That type of behaviour is not permitted under the law. Trademarks are vital pieces of intellectual property and are critical to the clear communication of

information to individual consumers, businesses and others regarding a product's source, quality and compatibility.' TWO HACKERS were sentenced to death by a

court in Jiangsu province in eastern China, according to the official newspaper there last week, after being found guilty of breaking into a bank computer network and stealing 260,000 yuan. The court also confiscated 40,000 yuan from Hao Jinglong, formerly an accountant at the Zhenjiang branch of the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China, and his brother Hao Jingwen, The pair opened 16 accounts under various

names in a branch of the bank in September and later broke into the branch to install a device in a computer terminal which they used to move 720,000 yuan into their accounts.

Meanwhile, in Beijing. Chairman Mao's Little Red Book was updated to celebrate the 105th anniversary of his birth last Saturday. The CD-Rom version of the Communist leader's sayings contains more than 3,000 pictures and 120 film and televisioo clips as well as 20 volumes of political thought.

JAPANESE POLICE said that a Japanese language Web-based suicide service bas led to at least one death in Tokyo and seven deliveries of potassium cyanide capsules. The Web site gave advice to those "who do not know bow to obtain the right drug", according to Renters, and offered a lethal dose of cyanide for delivery by parcel post at a cost of 30,000-50,000 yen.

Police say the service came to light last month after a 24-year-old woman died from cyanide poisoning in hospital. They also said that a 27-year-old licensed pharmacist, believed to operate the service based in Sapporo, had killed himself after learning of the woman's death, The names of six other customers were discovered. One had attempted suicide by another means. Three had not taken the cyanide delivered to them. Two remained untraceable

REVIEW

Don't lose sight of the human touch

THIS BOOK has a contents list ital economy brings: "We do not that runs like the cast of an IT know exactly where it will take Wired World, in which all bar the editor, Anne Leer, and one contributor are masters, is a not narrow the interests that collection of essays taking the reader on a journey into the meaning and potential of the global information society. En route you bump into such luminaries as Vice-President Al Gore, Arthur C Clarke, Jim Barksdale, Sir David Putinam, Peter Mandelson (this book was on the printing press before his light was extinguished) and Charles Handy.

Topping it all is Tony Blair. His introduction makes clear that the book is about business. and the change which the dig-

know that change will come." But the commercial intent does the book pursues.

One of the most memorable images comes from Arthur C Clarke. He compares the person who rushes to the Internet seeking knowledge with the person who rushes to Niagara Falls to quench his or her thirst: they will be drowned. Clarke's warning is mirrored in the scale of the revolution that Gore anticipates, so much so that he calls for a Digital Declaration of Independence to

Masters of the Wired World Pitman Publishing £18.99

safeguard the values of democratic societies in a world in

which information can work for good and ill.

Leer's method is to try and see behind the hype. She seeks to engage in the painstaking task of mapping the real wired world, not the imaginary one confused by its own myth and flights of fancy. Only in this way will the means of navigating it be found. In this, she is supported by Netscape's Barksdale, who argues that it is more important, though more difficult, to grow networks rather

The book also tries to iden-

tify and promote the human value in the digital revolution. Sir David Puttnam's thoughts add a particular caution. When it comes to digital content in the age of entertainment, he fears that the US will dominate. He worries over a cultural time bomb that could blind people to the subtleties of real artistry in

the 21st century. Until his recent demise, Peter Mandelson was rapidly developing a reputation for being right about the strategic importance of leading in the digital economy. Here he talks about the possibilities for a

than merely pile on the power digital government with no less of the computer. He prefers enthusiasm and places himself the regulation debate. No doubt his opinion will continue to carry weight, and his successors could do worse than listen to his warnings: technology has tripped up governments repeatedly in the past.

This book manages to touch hard issues as well as generate lots of excitement. The contributions do vary, and there is an occasional indulgence in neologisms, which obscure rather than explain. And it ends well with Charles Handy's case for fraternity in the individualism of the Information Age. In fact, he thinks only that will save us. MARK VERNON

SITES ANDY OLDFIELD

The Ring of Irony http://www.satire.demo

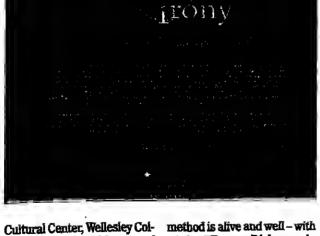
n.co.uk/irony.html If you thought that the only expressions of irony on the Internet were those obscure variations on smiley faces called emoticons, think again. The Ring of Irony (ROI) sets out to be a gateway to sites that ply their trades in satire, parody,

spoof, black humour and irony. As well as the offer of a daily dose of e-mail irony, there are links to divers and diverse sites. A random link generator takes you to places you might otherwise not have come across such as "Shallow Thoughts and Deep Doo Doo", the official site of stand-up comedian "Lonesome" Keith Turner, which tries to offend every man, woman, and child on planet Earth - a task which is too

big, it seems. Another ROI site, "Amazing Web Tales!", is less ambitious, merely setting out to spoof Gabriel Garcia Marquez with an extract from Magical Realism Meets Godzilla. There are at least another 115 sites along these or similar lines. You have been warned.

Shock Of The View

http://www.walkerart.or g/salons/shockoftheview/ It's all very well digitising the work of a gallery and putting it online, but there's much more to art and museums in cyberspace. This six-month collaboration between the Walker Art Center, the Davis Museum and



lege, the San José Museum of Art, the Wexner Center for the Arts, Ohio State University and Rhizome takes a two-pronged line. On one hand are exhibitions on broad themes such as architectural space, complete with online audience response.

On the other approach is an ongoing listsery discussion about the similarities and differences between traditional art and digital work, and what concepts such as the network mean if, or when, it comes to demarcating real and virtual art and museums.

After The Bug http://www.sfgate.com/ thebug/ Dickens publication a twist. Whereas Dickens published his stories in serial form, in journals such as Bentleu's Miscellany, the American novelist Alexander Besher has launched his on-going serial on to the Web pages of SF Gate, the electronic home of San Francisco's Chronicle and Examiner newspapers.

The story complete with hyperlinks, is set in San Francisco



around the turn of the millennium and revolves around the curiously named Geronimo Poe, a man employed to check hi-tech toilets for Y2K compliance. If you think that rogue toilets do not appear much in Y2K mythology, you're right -

Even less aired by the scaremongers is the existence of a secret agency charged with dealing with paranormal fallout from the Y2K bug. Conspiracy theory that's intentionally farcical makes a welcome change. Tune in each week for a new episode to find out how it all un-

Hogmanay.net http://www.hogmanay. net/

Where did you see in the New Year? If you were one of the many thousands who took to the streets of Edinburgh, hut find that your memory is slightly blurred after the event, you can drop in here and check out the RealVideo streams for evidence of how much you might have enjoyed, or embarrassed, yourself.

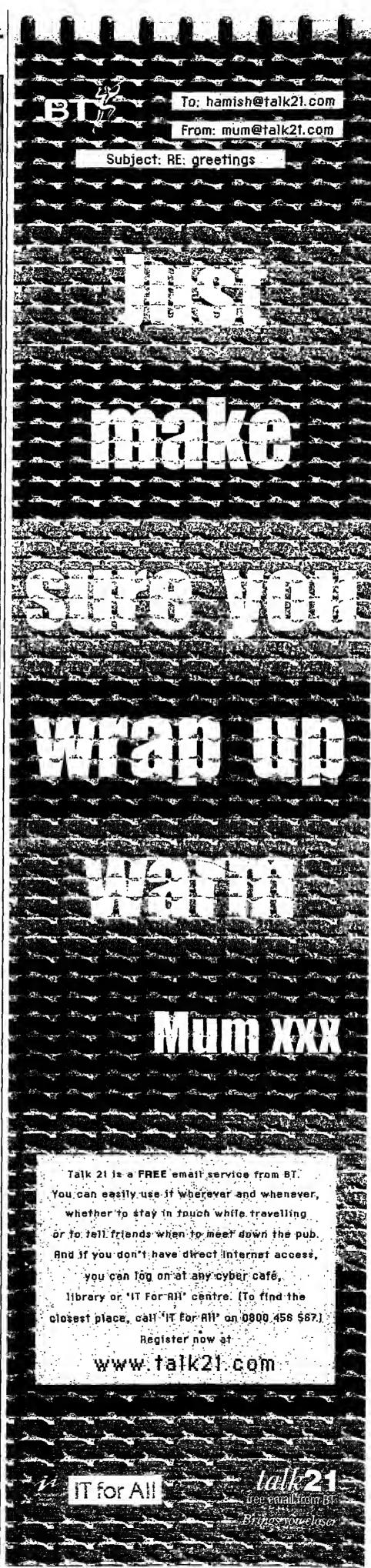
If you worked really hard at the celebrations and still have a hangover, you're advised to follow the link to the hangover page to see if you can find a cure that doesn't make you feel worse than the ailment - or even contribute your own if you can't get a patent on it. You might want to check out the bulletin boards for messages from other survivors.

For the dedicated party an imal, this is a site worth bookmarking for next year's bash. Information and general news about Hogmanay YK2, including tickets for events and accommodation, will be posted throughout 1999. For those who would like to brush up on what it's all abont, there are also FAQs about Hogmanay celebrations and resultant beadaches worldwide



The Fantastic Films Of Ray Harryhausen http://www3.leba.net/jr odkey/hrryhusn.shtml A labour of love devoted to the model builder whose puppet animation and special effects brought the mythological to fantastic life in Jason and the Argonauts, made a monkey out of Terry Moore and Robert Armstrong in Mighty Joe Young, and turned Raquel Welch into a grunting savage in One Million Years BC. It's a shrine, image gallery, filmography, biography and more.

Send unusual, quirky or, at a pinch, cool site recommendations to websites@dircon.co.uk



The gay, the sad and the ugly

Kathy Burke says she knows her place when it comes to casting.

And it's not among the beautiful people. By James Rampton

you thought that rip a bit more. People will have relish it," she continues. Waynetta was a slob, Linda the character Kathy Burke plays in a new BBC2 sitcom, Gimme, *Gimme*, is even more gross than the shell-suited, chain-smoking wife of Wayne she inhahits for Harry Enfield and Chums. Life for Linda and her gay flatmate Tom (James Dreyfus from The Thin Blue Line) is one long sex, drugs and rock'n'roll perma-bender. Done up in a ginger fright-wig and white-rimmed clown glasses, from On the Buses." Help. Linda gets so out of it her only way of knowing whether she ended the blinder by sleeping with someone is by sniffing her

sheets the morning after. Refined it is not. But that's the point. We're not talking Noel Coward popping in through the French windows with a tennis racquet in one just look a mess; she is a mess. hand and a flute of champagne in the other. With Gimme, Gimme, Gimme, playwright Jonathan Harvey's (Beautiful Thing) first venture into sitcoms, we're in the Bottom area. The mailroom at Points of View must already be laying on extra sacks to accommodate the piles of outraged letters.

For a start, Gimme, Gimme, Gimme contains what is Britain's first openly gay lead sitcom character, Tom may be a year behind America's Ellen. hut he is much more in-yourface. "People are going 'about hloody time'," says Burke. "It's not a question of 'is he? isn't he?' - he's gay. There are references to 'E' and poppers. Before he goes out, Tom routinely checks his condoms and the next morning he's paranoid because he was on drugs and can't remember what happened to them.'

ink flowing, then nothing ever will. Not that Burke is bothered and Chums is very family-orientated, but Gimme. Gimme, Gimme isn't for mums and of the day. dads. This time I wanted to let

a false sense of security because I've played adorable characters before. But when we were creating Linda, I said to Jonathan, I want to out-dog Waynetta'. It went wrong with Waynetta because too many people liked her. And she had a man in her life. I wanted Linda to be more lonely, one of the real victims of society. She had to be mutton dressed as lamb, ugly and ginger - poor old gingers of the world, there's a lot of comic mileage in them. She's Chris Evans crossed with Olive

It is Linda's very vileness that makes her believable, according to Burke. "I don't want people to like Linda. There are horrible people in the world. If she was lovable, she'd have a harem of men. But she's on her own because she's nasty. She doesn't

that way. That's why Absolutely Fabulous went down so well. It was so refreshing to see those horrible drunk women. Burke is commendably open about her greatest asset - a recognisable earthiness that is far removed from the nevernever-land beauty myth. She is more suited to grittiness than glamour. (Which is why she

"They're always three-dimen-

sional parts. Without meaning

to aound anti-men, ghastly

women are the closest you get

to a male role. It's very rare for

women to be able to let go in

harrowing film, Nil By Mouth, and why the money men's original idea of Patsy Kensit in the role was so wildly off the mark). Far from being wracked with anxiety about it, Burke is

adamant that the way she

tered wife in Gary Oldman'a

'Without meaning to sound anti-men, ghastly women are the closest you get to playing a male role. It's very rare for women to be able to let go in that way'

She's a case for The Rikki Lake Show." She adds the almost touching revelation: "If I hadn't become an actress, I could have ended up like that. I could see myself sitting there, showing me cellulite and shouting 'be's gone off with my sister'.' Burke really doesn't mind

playing gargoyles like Linda, Waynetta or the unfortunate, abused Martha in Mr Wroe's Virgins - in fact quite the opposite, "A part like Martha was scabs and all. I must be the only actress in history who has been lating reasons. It was as if the producers thought we want to by the prospect. "You can't make sure people don't get off please all of the people all of the on this -we'll get Kathy Burke'. time," she says. "Harry Enfield Afterwards I thought, 'I'm always cast as the ugly one', hut they're better parts at the end

"I love playing grotesques, I litically correct sacred cows.

looks "has belped me because directors know that vanity doesn't come into it. I'm happy to look as terrible as I can. Always being a couple of stone overweight has also been a strength. It means I tend to play people who are normal. I'm not a raving beauty. I've got quite a plain old face, but so have the

majority of women "I'd be mortified if I thought I had to be the pretty one. When I was younger [she is now 34], I had to play a lot of girlfriends and I couldn't handle it. where I had to show a boyfriend some affection, and I ended up giving him a playful punch which nearly knocked him out."

Like last year's BBC2 sitcom Sunnyside Furm, the cartoonish Gimme, Gimme, Gimme takes a chainsaw to some po"My character is thick and homophotic and racist," says Burke. We didn't want anything precious or PC because it's so dull and it doesn't make good sitcom material. I wanted to make sure Linda and Tom were horrendous. They had to be the kind of grotesques that

work well in British sitcoms."

A vein of sadness certainly runs through all the best Britcoms. "Look at The Fast Show. The characters everyone instantly thought were fantastic were Ted and Ralph - all that repression and things not being said. Maybe those sorts of comwas so perfectly cast as the hatedy make us feel better about ourselves. Friends is well-constructed, but I find it hard to watch because I think their lives are great. They have fantastic apartments, and they all look amazing. The British are best at showing life's sad and lonely characters, people who have not lived the life they thought they were going to live. Take poor old Harold in Steptoe and Son. Every time he thought he'd met a woman, it was messed up by his father

> leaving him." Burke's unluvvie-ish candour has not hindered her career. Producers - and, more importantly, audiences - seem to warm to her honesty. She has recently enjoyed success in movies such as Elizabeth and Dancing at Lughnasa, and has another, This Year's Love, coming out next month. She was even ferried to Cannes in Luc Besson's private jet to collect the Best Actress Award for her stunning performance in Nil By Mouth.

and by his sense of guilt about

Despite all this, Burke remains the principal butt of her own gags. "Imagine if I started hanging out with Caprice-my again," she says, before reflecting: "All the same, people bitch about her when her back's turned - 'you can see her backbone'. But, hell, I'd love to see my backbone at some point."

'Gimme, Gimme, Gimme' begins on 8 January, BBC2





Burke's Peerage: 'I must be the only actress in history who has asked to be naked for untitiliating reasons.' Above, as Linda, in ginger fright-wig, with James Dreyfus in Gimme, Gimme, Gimme

An everyday story of Malaysian folk

Who can developing countries look to for health education and safe sex advice? The Archers, of course. By Chris Arnott

A STUNNED silence descended on the Ministry of Information's training centre in Phnom Penh after 18 would-be scriptwriters had listened to an episode of Radio Four's The Archers. Five of them could follow it in English. The rest had scripts translated into Khmer, the national language of Cambodia but not a natural vehicle for the agricultural cadences of

Eddie Grundy or Bert Fry.
This was the episode where Alistair, the vet, confronts Richard, the doctor. Richard has been sleeping with Alistair'a girffriend, the hitherto saintly Shula. In the middle of the emotional turmoil, Richard finds time to take blood from Kate to determine whether or not Roy is the father of her baby. Just an everyday story of country folk in Middle England, But what relevance could it possibly have to this far less comfortable region of South-east Asia?

More than you might think. Kerry Davies, a senior producer on The Archers, recently spent two and a half weeks deconstructing Britain's longest-running soap opera for the benefit of Cambodians who want to make their own radio drama.

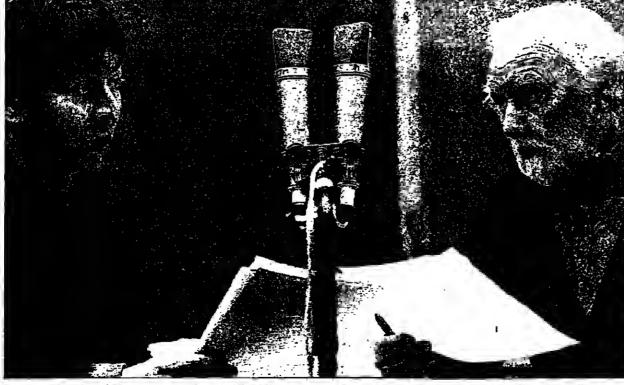
"I had to point out that it's not usual for doctors to go to bed with their patients in my country," he grins. "But this was a good episode to analyse because the structure was superb, and the scene with Kate offered us the chance to show how quick and comparatively painless blood tests are."

He went to Cambodia at the invitation of Health Unlimited, a charity which runs health education projects in developing countries. Radio drama is seen as an ideal medium in a land where its audience reach is far higher than that of television.

But Cambodian listeners are used to stylised, epic fantasies. "The actors tend to burst into song at regular intervals," says Davies, who knew that injecting some realism would be a daunting task.

"There were some health professionals and some short-story writers in the script-writing class, but oobody had written anything of any length. Luckily, they were quick learners.

"After they'd listened to the whole episode, we went through it, bit by hit, to show them how a story was huilt, how



Graham Seed and Norman Painting as Nigel Pargetter and Phil Archer, recording the universal radio soap

characters were introduced and how you could hook the listener to tune in again."

This is hardly the first time that The Archers has been used as a role model for radio soaps in unlikely settings. The BBC studio in Birmingham is regularly visited by health educationalists from around the globe. And a former editor, Liz Rigbey, travelled to Russia in 1992 to advise on Dom Suem ("House Seven"), a drama set in a Moscow apartment building and designed to convey subliminal messages about the joys of the free market. It boasts a sort of Muscovite Eddie Grundy, a plumber with a taste for vodka, and it's still running daily.

Whether the free-market message is as enthusiastically received as it once was is a matter for conjecture. But Davies has no doubt that radio drama can be an ef-

that's how The Archers started, back in

1951, seven years before he was born. The first Archers producer, Godfrey Baseley, was expected by the BBC to include a certain amount of information from the Ministry of Agriculture (an obligation which continued until 1972). Today, most press releases from the Ministry join those from other vested interests - in the overflowing waste paper bins.

"We'd run screaming from including something for educational reasons, because our listeners are too sophisticated; they'd see it coming a mile off," says Davies. But he was more than happy to offer his expertise to spread vital information in less developed parts of the world. "Radio drama saves lives," he says with some conviction. He cites as an example fective vehicle for propaganda. Indeed, New Home, New Life, which was devised

by the BBC World Service in the bowels of Bush House, translated into Pashto and Persian and transmitted from Pakistan over the border into Afghanistan. Recent surveys have credited the show with increased awareness of landmines, child immunisation programmes and the correct way to breast-feed without passing on TB. In Cambodia, one child in five dies before its fifth birthday, and Aids is a major problem among the adult population. Up to 40 per cent of prostitutes there are thought to be HIV positive. What's more, condoms are considered to be "unmanly".

To advise on how radio drama could begin to confront such deeply-engrained cultural attitudes, Davies went back to the very roots of The Archers.

farming content was only 10 per cent. a few lives.

There was another 15 per cent on countryside stuff - 'oh, look, the catkins are out' - hut the rest was drama, romance and comedy to keep people listening."

Whether it's farming information in Britain or health education in Cambodia, the same principle applies, he says. "You can use propaganda only as a small proportion of the programme. Otherwise it's not drama at all. just a washing-line with

messages pegged up."
For archetypal characters, too. Davies went back to the laws of Godfrey, "Baseley's original model was built around the father and mother figures (Dan and Doris), the young lovers (Phil and Grace, then Jill), a comic character (Walter Gabriel) and the irritant (Peggy's first husband, Jack Archer). The gossip, the ne'er-do-well, and friends of the young lovers were subsidiary."

Alas, there is no Cambodian equivalent of The Bull or The Cat and Fiddle in Ambridge. Davies's initial advice, that the characters should gather in a bar, were met with sceptical looks from his hosts. "Bars in their country have sexual connotations," he says. "So we decided on a market, as in EastEnders, where characters gather, gossip is exchanged and the plot can be advanced. There's also a

restaurant, run by a friend of the lovers." In one of the storylines Davies has suggested, the restaurateur gives some manto-man advice to the comic character, who has a sexually-transmitted disease. "It's only a small part of the plot," he says, "but it shows that medical advice doesn't have to be a lecture from your doctor. Here, it's one young bloke prodding another in the chest and saying Look, matey, if you're

going to sleep around, be careful'." The setting is Poi Pet, a small town near the Thailand border with a reputation for drug smuggling. Borchester it ain't. But if Davies's suggestions are accepted, Poi Pet In My Heart will start broadcasting in March. A 10-minute drama will be slotted into a half-hour programme for the 15-to-

24 age group, hroadcast twice a week. And if it runs for anywhere near as long "Even in the early days," he says, "the as The Archers, it could save more than

THIS WAS THE WEEK THAT WAS

Today On this day in 1936, The Billboard of New York published the first chart based on record sales. Charts, to be precise: the top 10 of three companies were listed separately, giving three different Number Ones.

Tomorrow Alexander Dumas fought his first duel in 1925, which was rather different from fights in his Three Musketeer novels and the films: his trousers fell down.

Wednesday The Sex Pistols were sacked by EMI in 1977 after their "foul-mouthed" TV interview. In fairness, the punks didn't swear all the time: only when they opened their mouths.

Thursday In 1894 Fred Ott's Sneeze hecame the first film to be copyrighted; it included the earliest close-up of, naturally, Fred Ott. sneezing. Charles Addams was born in 1912 and rapidly gravitated towards graveyards, via The Addams Family cartoon, TV series and films.

Friday England's earliest known cartoon appeared in Bell's New Weekly Messenger in 1832. In it, the Duke of Wellington moans "O fie fie" at the idea of creating new peers to push the Reform Bill through a House of Lords which was digging its heels in (no change there, then).

Saturday Czech playwright Karel Capek was born in 1890; the word "robot" derives from his play R.U.R., which stands for "Rossum's Universal Robots".

Sunday This is the 50th anniversary of the 45rpm extended-play record, launched by RCA in 1949. In 1888 a patent was granted for the first single-lens movie camera. It, with inventor Louis le Prince, later disappeared mysteriously from the Dijon-Paris train. In a further Hitchcock-style twist of the plot, his son, who tried to have Louis credited as the true originator of motion pictures, was found dead in a Long Island wood. (Cue sinister music.) JONATHAN SALE

1. 60 11 100

NEW FILMS

THE ACID HOUSE (18)

Director: Paul McGuigan Starring: Stephen McCole, Kevin McKidd, Ewen Bremner

A trio of interrelated shorts culled from the stories of Irvine Welsh, The Acid House plays out with brio between a range of moods and tones. Story number one, "The Granton Star Cause", is a playful riff on Kalka's Metamorphosis as layabout wastrel Boab (McCole) gets conjured into a fly by the vengeful, boozing God (Maurice Roeves) whom he meets down the pub.

Story two, "A Soft Touch", comes on as a kind of social-realist Special Brew opera, as its affable, emasculated hero (the brilliant Kevin STAR TREK: INSURRECTION (PG) McKidd) finds himself cheated on by his missus and menaced by the tattooed thug who lives upstairs. Story three, "The Acid House", is both A belated Christmas gift for Trekkies the land the most ambitious and the least coherent, an indiscriminate what-if scenario which has Ewen Bremner's rave kid switching places with a reliably cheesy art-design and effects work, and newborn bairn. In it, the revelations of an acidtrip are cross-cut to the trauma of birth, yet a clever conceit stays unfulfilled, buried under a ton of showy hallucinogenics. Overall, though, debut director Paul McGuigan (who trained as a stills photographer) turns The Acid House into a bit of a triumpb; adapting his style well to the shifting landscape of Welsh's tales and rustling up a film that's less poised and populist than Trainspotting, but more earthy, edgy and intense, too. A cracker, all told.

West End: Gate Notting Hill, Odeon Camden Town, Plaza, Ritzy Cinema, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Haymarket, Warner Village West End

STECOM (181

Director: François Ozon

Starring: Evelyne Dandry, François Marthourel, Marina de Van

Someone ought to introduce François Ozoo to a good editor. The debuting French film-maker is

clearly a man of talent, but in Silcom be lets bis ideas maraud madly off the leash. This scattergun satire on middle-class mores takes abundant pleasure in dismantling a standard nuclear family Imère, père, fils et fille) - setting a rat loose in the bome and interjecting an implicitly queer in the down and-dirty landscape of some of and subversive veio to the increasingly fraught Edinburgh's less salubrious areas and darts sbenanigans. The result is sharp, funny and savage one moment, over-heated and indulgent tha next, and arrives beavily touched by the influence of Luis Bunuel and John Waters. Ozon's still, formal framing strikes a nice balance with the craziness contained inside. West End: Barbican Screen, Clapham Picture

House, Curzon Soho, Virgin Chelseo.

Director: Jonathan Frakes Starring: Patrick Stewart

over. Insurrection hits the cinemas stuffed with in-the-know gags, ribboned and bowed with wrapped up in rather more cornball romance than we're used to.

The varn is nominally about Patrick Stewart's do-gooding captain tangling with villainous F Murray Abraham, who has hatched a scheme to take over an Eden-like planet of perpetual youth. The trouble is that the whole Star Trek pbenomenoo bas become less a story oow than a series of self-reflective gestures. Insurrection takes no real risks with the format; it simply navel-gazes for a while, gives floorspace to the regulars and idles its way along to the climactic explosion.

West End: ABC Baker Street, ABC Tottenham Court Road, Elephant & Castle Coronet, Empire Leicester Square, Hammersmith Virgin, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road. Virgin Trocadero

Xan Brooks

THE INDEPENDENT RECOMMENDS

THE FIVE BEST FILMS

The Truman Show (15)

Peter Weir's ingenious and unscitling fantasy is, in the end, an escape movie - in the case of Jim Carrey's Truman Burbank (right), it is breaking out of the round-theclock TV docu-soap that is his own life.

Out of Sight (15)

This tale of love on opposite sides of the law from director Steven Soderbergh manages to knock spots off every previous Elmore Leonard adaptation, and boasts in George Clooney and Jennifer Lopez the most romantic pairing of the cinematic year.

Antz (PG) Computer-animated comedy voiced by a stellar cust

and starring Woody Allen as a worker ant who becomes an unlikely opponent of the colony's totalitarian regime. Allen's best work in a while.

My Name is Joe (15)

All that one would expect from a Ken Loach film - humour, indignation, emotional sympathy driven by Peter Mullan's scary, intense performance as a recovering alcoholic.

The Dream Life of Angels (18) Erick Zonca's remarkable debut draws its strength from the contrasting personalities of Isa (Elodic Bouchez) and Marie (Natacha Regnier).

whose friendship comes alive amid the drab environs of Lille.

THE FIVE BEST PLAYS

Mr Puntila and His Man Matti Albery Theatre

A well-deserved transfer for this Almeida hit. Comedy duo The Right Size are inspired casting for Brecht's witty fable about a split-personality landowner. To 9 Jan

Love Upon the Throne

Comedy Theatre The Charles and Diana story (well, up to the divorce) presented by the National Theatre of Brent, Hilarious and oddly touching. To 31 Jan

Martin Guerre West Yorkshire Playhouse, Leeds

It's third time lucky for this much rewritten Boubil/Schonberg musical. In Conall Morrison's starkly involving production, it finally emerges as a tighter magnificent show. To 13 Feb

Angela Carter Cinderella Lyric.

Hammersmith This feast of inspired seasonal silliness and visual magic (right) by Angela Carter has lashings of drag and double entendres, plus the best mice to be found anywhere on a

West End stage. To 9 Jan

A Month in the Country Swan Theatre, Stratford

Ireland's finest living dramatist, Brian Friel, adapts Turgenev's proto-Chekhovian comedy, To 20 Feb

PAUL TAYLOR

THE FIVE BEST SHOWS

Charlotte Salomon

Royal Academy
"Life? Or Theatre?", Salomon's life in pictures. 405 raw gouaches tell the story of the German Jewish girl's haste before Auschwitz - an expressionistic operetta in three colours. To 10 Jan

Grinling Gibbons Victoria & Albert

Museum Fruit, flowers and

foliage - the best chiselwork (right) of the great 17th-century English woodcarver, who made intricacy and the abundance of nature his trademark. To 24 Jan

Chris Ofili Whitworth Gallery. Manchester

This 1998 Turner Prize-winner is an upbeat original. his surfaces dense and decorative, with swirls of dots, eyes, Afros and black icons, and incorporating mutant balls of elephant dung. To 24 Jan

Goya: The Disparates Maidstone Museum & Art Gallery

Goya was deaf, ill and in his seventies when he produced his last series of etchings. Mysterious in lotention, it is a void world: life is folly, men fly off on wings into darkness. To 23 Jan

Edward Burne-Jones Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery

Centenary exhibition gathers together many favourites illustrating Burne-Jones's romantic and medievalist oether world, To 17 Jan

TOM LUBSOCK

GENERAL RELEASE

See The Independent Recommends, above. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Rio Cin-

THE APPLE (SIB) (PG)

Virgin Trocadero

Seventeen-year-old Samirah Makhmalbaf's THE PARENT TRAP (PG)

BABE: PIG IN THE CITY (U)

The follow-up to Babe tosses the hapless "sheep pig" into the midst of the city where he becomes the unlikely saviour of a bunch of assorted waifs. Comedy is kept to a minimum in favour of a bleak animatronic fairy tale. West End: Odeon Comden Plaza, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Trocadero

DANCING AT LUGHNASA (PG)

Less a dance, more of a trudge, Pat O'Connor's Ireland -set saga pinpoints the ebb and flow of an eccentric Catholic family in deepest Donegal. What gives it backbooe is Meryl Streep's regal performance as the brood's eldest sister, plus the ever watchable Michael Gambon as the homecoming brother. Kathy Burke, Catherine McCormack and Brid Brennan also feature. West End: Curzon Mayfair

ELIZABETH (15)

Shekhar Kapur's follow-up to Bondit Queen is the story of another female figurehead - this time it's Queen Elizabeth I - struggling to gain purchase m a male world. But Kapur largely neglects the abundant opportunities for fun in a story of In planning his cartoon life of Moses, DreamWorks independence triumphing over cruelty. West End: ABC Panton Street, Curzon Soho, Curzon Minema, Odeon Mezzanine, Phoenix Cinema, Rio Cinema, Virgin Fulham Road

ENEMY OF THE STATE (15)

Will Smith's fall-guy DA teams up with Gene Hackman's pensioned-off Pentagon warhorse, to probe a political cover-up and gets embroiled in all manner of Big Brother-type trouble. This is a big, noisy and effectively claustrophobic conspiracy thriller with a top-drawer cast including Jon Voight and Gabriel Byrne. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Clapham Picture House, Hammersmith Virgin, Notting Hill Coronet. Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Odeon West End, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on Baker Street, Screen on the Green, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Fulham Road

THE MASK OF ZORRO (PG)

This gaudy swashbuckler gallops at full-speed through 19th-century California in the company of Antonio Banderas's authentically Hispanic do-gooder. A bite-sized history lesson on West Coast politics jostles for purchase amid a lot of colourful duels and clattering action set-pieces. West End: Clapham Picture House. Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Ben Stiller, Cameron Diaz and Matt Dillon star Leicester Square, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys. Virgin Fulham Road

Peter Chelsom's The Mighty treads through familiar coming-of-age country with its tale of two outcast kids tone fat, the other sickly) in a tad predictable, though there's a glimmer of soul showing through. Sharon Stone and The X-Files' Gillian Anderson cope well in what basically amount to supporting roles. West End: Screen on the Hill, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Haymarket

THE NEGOTIATOR (15)

Samuel L Jacksoo and Kevin Spacey go head to head in Gray's thrilling drams. The script has a predilection for hink-headed swearing which sounds uneasy in the mouths of such articulate performers. West End: UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

OUT OF SIGHT 115)

See The Independent Recommends, above. West End: Empire Leicester Square, Odeon ema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Kensington, Odeon Swiss Cottage. Phoenix Cinema, Rio Cinema, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadero

precocious debut stages a true-life recreation of The Porent Trop catches Disney cannibalising Its the fortunes of Iran's Naderi sisters. Part docu- own back catalogue; re-heating its 1961 Hayley drama, part rites-of-passage fable, this is the Mills heart-warmer as this a spry, cross-cultural luminous and extraordinary missive from a caper starring Lindsay Lohan as the separatedburgeoning Iranian film scene. West End: Metro, at-birth twin sisters (one British, one American) determined to get their parents (Natasha Richardson, Dennis Quald) back together. West End: Clapham Picture House, Hammersmith Virgin, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington. Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Odeon West End, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea

A PERFECT MURDER (15)

Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Swiss Cottage, With Hollywood awash with dumb re-makes, the news that Hitchcock's classic Dial M for Murder was to be rehashed did not bode well. But this is not bad at all. Michael Douglas stars as the cuckolded city shark who blackmails an artist into killing his heiress wife, Gwyneth Paltrow. This is gold-plated trash: the sort of thing Hollywood does better than anyone else. West End: Warner Village West End

THE PHILADELPHIA STORY (U)

Sublime cinema. It's a fast-talking romantic comedy of course, but there's nothing silly or trivial about it. George Cukor's movie has a strange and melancholy beart and Katharine Hepburn's unsatisfied beiress sheds real tears. West End: Curzon Mayfair, Renoir

THE PRINCE OF EGYPT (U)

boncho Jeffrey Katzenberg envisaged it "painted by Claude Monet and photographed by David Lean". The end result winds up as The Ten Commandments by way of Joseph and his Technicolor Dreamcoat. West End: ABC Baker Street, ABC Tottenham Court Road, Clapham Picture House, Elephant & Castle Coronet, Empire Leicester Square, Hammersmith Virgin, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero

Rather than adding value, John Frankenheimer's 40 years as a feature director lend an air of knackered resignation to his latest movie, which stars Robert De Niro. Thrill-an-hour stuff. West End: Odeon Mezzanine, Virgin Trocadero

RUSH HOUR (15)

Jackie Chan and Chris Tucker's star in this hitand-miss affair. West End: Hommersmith Virgin, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Plaza, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village

THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT MARY (15) in the latest comedy from the pathologically tasteless writer-director team of Peter and Bobby Farrelly (previous repulsive but shamefully funny crimes against humanity: Dumb and Dumber and Kingpin). The film is basically 8 soft-centred romantic comedy of the kind which drifts out of Hollywood on a regular basis. The gags never amount to more than vulgar icing on an storybook Cincinnati. It's all a bit stolid and a unexceptionally bland cake. West End: ABC Piccadilly. Odeon Mezzanine

WHAT DREAMS MAY COME (15)

Along comes Christmas and out comes What Dreams May Come. Robin Williams perfects a lopsided simper as the dead chappie who lights out to a cod-impressionist heaven, before jetting southward to rescue his suicide bride. West End: ABC Baker Street, ABC Shaftesbury Avenue. Clapham Picture House, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Haymarket, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottags, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

CINEMA WEST END

ABC BAKER STREET (0870-902 0418) Baker Street The Prince of Egypt 1,40pm, 4pm Star Trek: Insurrection 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6pm, 8.30pm What Dreams May Come What Oreams 6.05pm, 8.35pm

ABC PANTON STREET (0870-902 0404) ➡ Piccadilly Circus Elizabeth 2.10pm, 5.10pm, 8.10pm The Last Days of Disco 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6pm, 8.25pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.10pm, 3.35pm, 6pm, 8.30pm My Name Is Joe 1.10pm, 3.35pm, 6pm, 8.25pm ARC PICCADILLY

(0171-287 4322 (from 1pm) Piccadilly Circus Hamam; The urkish Bath 1.25pm, 3.50pm, .10pm, 8.35pm There's 6.10pm, 8.35pm There's Something About Mary 1.05pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.25pm

ABC SHAFTESBURY AVENUE (0870-902 0402) + Leicester Square/Tottenham Court Road Texas Chainsaw Massacre 1.40pm, 4.10pm, 6.40pm, 8.55pm What Dreams May Come 1.05pm, 3.40pm, 6.05pm; 8.30pm

ABC SWISS CENTRE 3.55pm, 6.15pm, 8.35pm It's a Wonderful Life 1,05pm, 6,05pm La Vie Revée des Anges 1.15pm, 3.35pm, 5.55pm, 8.15pm

ABC TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD ROAD
(0870-902 0414] Tottenham
(0870-902 0414] Tottenham
Court Road Antz 4.45pm,
9.45pm Enerny of The State
1.05pm, 3.45pm, 6.25pm,
9.10pm The Prince of Egypt
2pm, 7.55pm Star Trek:
Insurrection 1.20pm, 4pm,
6.50pm 9.35pm

6.50pm, 9.35pm BARBICAN SCREEN (0171-638 8891) ← Barblcan The Mighty 6.15pm, 8.40pm Sitcom 3pm, 6.15pm. 8.40pm

CHELSEA CINEMA (0171-351 3742) & Sloane Square On Connait la Chanson 1pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, a.35pm

CLAPHAM PICTURE HOUSE

(0171-498 3323) & Clapham Common Enemy of The State 6.20pm, 9pm The Mask of Zorro 1.15pm, 4pm The Parent Trap 3.45pm The Prince of Egypt 1,30pm, 3,30pm Sitcom 5,30pm, 7.30pm, 9.30pm What Dreams May Come 6.45pm, 9.15pm CURZON MAYFAIR

(0171-369 1720) O Green Park Dancing at Lughnasa 4.15pm, 9pm The Philadelphia Story 9pm The Pl 2pm, 6.30pm

CURZON SOHO

(0171-734 2255 (12pm-6pm) Delicester Square/Tottenham Court Road Casablanca 1.45pm, 6.45pm Elizabeth 4pm, 9pm The Mighty 1pm, 5.15pm, 7.15pm My Name is Joe 3pm, 9.15pm Sitcom 1.30pm, 3 5.30pm, 7.30pm, 9.30pm 3.30pm.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE CORONET (0171-703 4968) & Elephant & Castle The Prince of Egypt 4.10pm, 6.30pm, 8.35pm Star Trek: Insurrection 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.**40**pm

EMPIRE LEICESTER SQUARE Prince of Egypt 10.45am, 1pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Star Trek: Insurrection 11pm, 1.30pm. 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm GATE NOTTING HILL

(0171-727 4043) S Notting Hill Gate The Add House 1.15pm. 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.50pm HAMMERSMITH VIRGIN

(0870-907 0718) O Ravenscourt Park/Hammersmith Enemy of The State 3pm, 6.10pm, 9.10pm The Prince of Egypt 12noon. 2.10pm, 4.20pm, 6.30pm Rush Hour 8.40pm Star nsurrection 1pm, 3.30pm. 6.20pm, 8.50pm

ICA CINTEMA (0171-930 3647) ↔ Charing Cross Sex/Life in LA 5pm, 7pm.

[0171-734 15061 ← Piccadilly Circus/Leicester Square The Apple (Sib) 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm The Boys 4.15pm, 8.45pm Fire 2pm, 6.30pm (not Yue) **CURZON MINEMA**

ANTHONY QUINN

10171-369 1723) & Hyde Park Comer Elizabeth 2,20pm. 6.40pm Fire 4.35pm, 9pm NOTTING HILL CORONET

(0171-727 6705) ♦ Notting Hill Gare Enemy of the State 3pm. 5.50pm, 8.30pm ODEON CAMDEN TOWN | 108705-050007| \$\to\$ Camden Town | 108705-050007| \$\to\$ Camden Town | The Acid House | 11.50am, | 2.05pm, | 4.20pm, | 6.35pm, | 8.55pm Enemy of the State | 12.05pm, | 2.45pm, | 5.30pm, | 8.30pm The Mask of Zorro | 3.30pm, | 8.35pm The Prince of Egypt | 11.45am, | 1.55pm State | 1.215pm, | 2.55pm | 4.35pm | 6.45pm |

9.10pm What Dreams May Come 4pm, 6,15pm, 8.45pm **ODEON HAYMARKET**

4.35pm,

8.40pm **ODEON KENSINGTON** (08705-050007) & High Street Kensington Babe: Pig in the City 12.10pm Enemy of the State 12.05pm, 3.10pm, 6.15pm, 9.20pm The Mask of Zorro 2.25pm, 5.40pm, 8.55pm Torro State, 6.20pm, 9.20pm The Sight 6.20pm, 9.20pm The Parent Trap 12.50pm, 3.35pm The Prince of Egypt 12.45pm, 3pm, 5.15pm, 7.30pm Rush Hour 9.50pm Star Trek: Insurrection 2pm. 4,35pm, 7.10pm, 9.45pm What Dreams May Come 1.30pm, 4,15pm, 7pm, 9.45pm

ODEON LEICESTER SOUARE 8.20pm

ODEON MARBLE ARCH (08705-050007) → Marble Arch Enemy of the State 12noon, 3.05pm, 6.05pm, 9.05pm The 3.05pm, 6.05pm, 9.05pm The Mask of Zorro 11.45am, 2.50pm, 5.55pm, 9.05pm The Parent Trap 12.15pm, 3.15pm The Prince of Egypt 11.55am, 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 6.45pm Rush Hour 9pm Star Trek: Insurrection 1pm, 3.35pm, 6.10pm, 8.55pm What Dreams May Come 5npm, 8.50pm May Come 6pm, 8.50pm

ODEON MEZZANINE Square Elizabeth 12.35pm, 3.05pm, 5.35pm, 8.20pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.25pm, 3.55pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm Les Miserables 3.30pm, a.30pm Mulan 1.40pm, 3.50pm Ronin 5.55pm, 6.25pm Snake Eyes 1.05pm, 6pm There's Something About Mary 12.45pm, 3.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm

ODEON SWISS COTTAGE (08705-050007) Swiss
Cottage Babe: Pig In the City
12.10pm Enemy of the State
12.10pm, 2.50pm, 5.35pm,
a.20pm The Mask of Zorro
2.15pm, 5.15pm, 8.15pm Out of Sight 8.25pm The Parent Trap 1.75pm The Prince of Egypt 1pm, 3.25pm, 5.55pm Rush Hour 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm Star Trek: Insurrection 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Whet Dreams May Come 12.30pm. 3.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm

ODBON WEST END Parent Trap 12.05pm, 2.45pm PEPSI IMAX CINEMA

(0171-494 4153) → Piccadilly Circus Everest 12.35pm. 2.40pm, 4.45pm. 7pm, 9.05pm T-Rext Back to the Cretaceous (3-D) 11.30am, 1.35pm, 3.40pm. 5.45pm. 8pm, 10.05pm PHOENIX CINEMA (0181-444 6789) ♦ East Finchley Elizabeth 6.15pm Left Luggage 1.45pm, 4pm Out of Sight

PLAZA Circus The Acid House 12.30pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm. 9pm Babe: Pig the City 12.45pm, 3.10pm, 5.30pm Rush Hour 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm Saving Private Ryan 7.50pm The Truman Show 3.35pm, 8.40pm

(0171-837 8402) Russell Square The Apple | Sib| 1pm, 2.55pm, 4.30pm, 6.45pm, 8.45pm On Connait la Chanson 3.45pm, 8.35pm The Philadelphia Story 1,25pm, 6,15pm

RIO CINEMA (0171-254 6677) BR: Dalston Kingsland Antz 2pm Elizabeth 6.30pm The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) 4pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking

RITZY CINEMA
(0171-733 2229) BR/O Brixton
The Acid House 1.45pm,
4.15pm, 6.45pm, 9.15pm Enemy
of the State 12.55pm, 3.30pm,
6.50pm, 9.25pm The Mask of
Zorro 12.50pm, 3.35pm, 6.25pm
Out of 5ight 6.35pm, 9pm The
Prince of Egypt 4,30pm Rush
Hour 9.10pm Star Trek:
Insurrection 2.30pm, 4.45pm,
7pm, 9.20pm The Umbrellas of
Cherbourg 2.20pm

Cherbourg 2,20pm SCREEN ON BAKER STREET (0171-935 2772) & Baker Street Enemy of the State 2.40pm, 5,30pm, 8.20pm Left Luggage 2,30pm, 4.40pm, 6.50pm, 9pm

SCREEN ON THE GREEN (0171-226 3520) & Angel Enemy of the State 2.40pm. 5.30pm, SCREEN ON THE HILL

(0171-435 3366) ◆ Belsize Park Left Luggage 4.40pm The Mighty 2.40pm, 6.50pm, 9pm DO WHITELEYS

10870-603 45671 & Queensway Antz 2.50pm Babe: Pig In the City 3,30pm Enemy of the State 3,40pm, 6pm, 6,30pm, 8,50pm, 9,20pm The Mask of Zorro phone for details The Negotiator phone for details Out of Sight phone for details The Parent Trap
phone for details The Prince of Egypt phone for details Rush Hour 5.10pm, 7.30pm. 9.50pm Star Trek: Insurrection 4.40pm. 7.10pm. 9.40pm What Dreams May Come 4.10pm. 6.40pm. 9.10pm

VIRGIN CHELSEA 10870-907 07101 & Stoane Square/South Kensington Enemy of the State 2.15pm, 5pm, 8.45pm Out of Sight 2.45pm, 6pm. 8.30pm Sitcom 2.30pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9.30pm What Dreams May Come 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm

VIRGIN FULHAM ROAD 10870-907 0711) © South Kensington The Acid House 1.10pm, 3.45pm, 6.50pm. 9.30pm Elizabeth 9pm Enemy of the State 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 6pm, 9.20pm The Mask of Zorro 12.20pm, 3.10pm, 6.10pm, 9.10pm The Mighty 1pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm The Prince of Egypt 12.10pm, 2 4.25pm, 6.40pm Star 2.15pm. 1pm. 3.30pm. 5.45pm, 8.30pm

VIRGIN HAYMARKET (0870-907 0712) + Piccadilly Circus The Acid House 2.40pm. 5.25pm, 8.10pm (+ Short: Jump Boy) The Mighty 12.40pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.25pm My Name is Joe 12.55pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.45pm VIRGIN TROCADERO

(0870-907 0716) & Piccadilly Circus Antz 12.20pm, 2.10pm. 4,05pm, 6.10pm The Negotiator 8.30pm Out of Sight 12noon, 2.50pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm The 2.30pm, 5.40pm, 6.30pm line Prince of Egypt 12.50pm, 3.20pm, 5.50pm, 8.10pm Ronin 9pm Rush Hour 12.10pm, 2.25pm, 4.40pm, 7pm, 9.20pm Star Trek: Insurrection 12noon. 2,20pm, 4.40pm, 7pm, 9.15pm The Truman Show 1pm, 3.30pm. 6.10pm What Dreams May Come 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 6pm, 8.50pm

WARNER VILLAGE WEST END (0171-437 4343) & Leicester Square The Add House 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.40pm, 9.30pm Blade .40pm, 4.10pm, 9.35pm The Exercist (25th Rerelease) 9pm Lethal Weapon 12.30pm, 3.30pm, 6pm Lock, Stock & Two 5moking Barrels 3.50pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm Mulan 11.45pm, 1.55pm The Negotiator 11.40am, 2.40pm, 5.40pm. 11,45pm, 1.55pm The Negociator 11,40am, 2.40pm, 5.40pm. 8.40pm A Perfect Murder 1.10pm, 3.40pm. 6.20pm, 9.10pm Rush Hour 1.20pm, 3.55pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm What Dreams May Come 12.20pm, 1.50pm, 3pm, 4.20pm, 5.30pm, 6.50pm, 8.20pm, 9.20pm. 6.50pm, 8.20pm, 9.20pm.

CINEMA LONDON LOCALS

PARK ROYAL WARNER VILLAGE

PARK ROYAL WARNER VILLAGE (0181-896 0066) & Park Royal Antz 5.40pm. 7.40pm Babe: Pig In the City 11am, 1.20pm, 3.30pm Blade 9.30pm Enemy of the State 11.30am, 12.40pm, 2.40pm, 3.40pm, 5.40pm, 6.40pm, 8.40pm, 9.40pm The Mask of Zorro 11.20am, 2.20pm. 5.20pm, 8.20pm Mulan 12.20pm The Parent Trap 12.10pm, 3pm, 6pm The Prince of Egypt 10.50am, 1pm, 3.20pm, 5.30pm, 7.40pm, 10pm Rush Hour 2.30pm, 5.05pm Small Soldiers 10.40am 5tar Trek: Insurrection 11.10am, Star Trek: Insurrection 11.10am. 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm What Dreams May Come 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm

ODEON (08705 050007) \$\times\$ High Barnet Babe: Pig In the City 12 noon Enemy of the State 12.15pm, 3pm, 3.45pm, 8.30pm The Mask of Zorro 2.15pm. 5.15pm, 8pm The Parent Trap 1pm, 3pm The Prince of Egypt 12.30pm, 3pm, 6pm Rush Hour 9pm Star Trek: Insurrection 12,45pm, 3,15pm, 6,30pm, 8,45pm What Dreams May Come 5,30pm,

ABC 10870 9020412) BR: Beckenham Junction Babe: Pig in the City 12.40pm Enemy of the State 5.40pm, 8.25pm The Parent Trap 2.55pm The Prince of Egypt 1.25pm, 3.40pm Star Trek: Insur-rection 1.30pm, 3.55pm, 6.20pm,

8.45cm What Dreams May Come 5.55pm, 8.30pm

BEKLEYHEATH CINEWORLD 101a1-303 15501 BR: Bodeyheath Antz 11.10am, 1.10pm Babe: Pig in the City 11.20am En-emy of the Scate 12.20pm, 3pm, 5.50pm, 6.55pm, 8.30pm, 9.35pm The Mask of Zorro 1pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9.20pm The Mighty 1pm, 3.30pm, 5.40pm, 7.50pm, 9.55pm The Parent Trap 11am, 1.30pm, 4.10pm The Prince of Egypt 11am, 4.10pm The Prince of Egypt 11am, 1.10pm, 3.20pm, 5.20pm, 7.25pm, 9.40pm Rush Hour 3.10pm, 5.20pm, 7.40pm, 10pm Star Trek: Insurrection 11.45am, 1.30pm, 2.15pm, 3.55pm, 4.45pm, 6.30pm, 7.15pm, 9pm, 9.45pm What Dreams May Come 2.15pm, 4.40pm, 7.10pm, 9.40pm

BROMLEY ODEON (08705 050007) ODEON (08705 050007)
BR: Bromley North/Bromley South
Enemy of The State 2.50pm,
5.40pm, 8.30pm The Mask of Zorro 1.45pm, 5.05pm, 8.20pm The
Parent Irap 12.15pm The Prince
of Egypt 1.15pm, 3.50pm Rush
Hour 6.15pm, 9pm Star Trek:
Insurrection 1pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm,
8.55pm

ABC (0181-698 3306) BR: Cathord Babe: Pig in the City 1.15pm Star Trek: Insurrection 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.40pm What Dreams May Come 5.45pm, 8.30pm CROYDON

CLOCKTOWER (0181-253 1030) BR: Croydon West/East Babe: Pig In the City 2pm The Mighty 4pm, 6.15pm, 8.30pm

SAFARI (0181-688 3422) BR: West Croydon. The Parent Trap 12.10pm. 2.45pm Star Trek: Insurrection 12noon, 3pm, 6pm, 8.30pm

WARNER VILLAGE (0181-680 8090) BR: East Croydon Antz 5.10pm, 7.10pm Babe: Pig in the City 12,25pm, 2.50pm Blade 9.40pm Enemy of the State 12.40pm, 3.40pm, 6.30pm, 9.30pm The Mask of Zorro 12.05pm. 3.20pm, 6.20pm, 9.20pm Mulan 10.35am The Parent Trap 12.50pm, 3.50pm, 6.50pm The Prince of Egypt 11am, 1,30pm, 4pm, 6,45pm, 9,10pm Rush Hour 2.35pm, 5pm, 7.20pm, 9.50pm Small Soldiers 12noon Star Trek: Insurrection 1pm. 3.30pm. 6.10pm, 8.55pm What Dreams May Come 12,35pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.40pm

DAGENHAM

WARNER VILLAGE (0181-592 2020) & Dagenham Heathway Antz 5.40pm, 7.40pm Babe: Pig in the City 11am, 1,20pm, 3,30pm Blade 9.40pm Enemy of the State 10.30am, 12.30pm, 1.10pm, 3.20pm, 3.50pm, 6.10pm, 6.40pm, 9pm, 9.30pm The Mask of Zorro 12,10pm, 3pm. 5.50pm, 8.40pm Mujan 10.50am The Parent Trap 12 50pm. 3,40pm. 6,30pm

The Prince of Egypt 11.40am, 2pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 8.50pm Rush Hour 12.40pm, 3pm, 5.20pm, 7.40pm, 9.20pm, 10pm Small Sol-diers 11.30am Star Trek; Insurrection 11,50am, 2,10pm, 4,30pm, 6.50pm, 9.10pm What Dreams May Come 2.20pm, 4.50pm, 7.20pm, 9.50pm

EALING VIRGIN UXBRIDGE ROAD (0870-9070719) BR/O Ealing Broadway Enemy of the State 12:30pm, 3,20pm, 6pm, 8,40pm The Mask of Zorro 8,30pm The Prince of Egypt 1,10pm, 3,40pm, 6,20pm Star Trek; Insurrection 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.45pm

EDMONTON

LEE VALLEY UCI 12 (0990888990) → Tottenham Hale Antz
phone for details Babe: Pig in the City phone for details Blade phone for details Doli Sajake Rakhna phone for details Enemy of the State phone for details Kuch Kuch Kuch Hota Hal phone for details The Mask of Zorro phone for details The Mighty phone for details Mulan phone for details The Negotiator phone for details The Parent Trap phone for details The Player's Club phone for details The Prince of Egypt phone for details Rush Hour phone for details Saving Pri-vate Ryan phone for details Small Soldiers phone for details Star Trek: Insurrection phone for details What

Dreams May Come phone for

FELTHAM CINEWORLD THE MOVIES (0181-367 0555) BR: Feltham Antz 11am, 1pm, 3pm Babe: Pig in the City 11.45am, 2.10pm, 4.30pm Blade 10pm Enemy of the State 12.30pm, 3.15pm, 6.15pm, 7pm, 9.10pm, 9.50pm Jhoole Bole Kauwa Kaate 3.15pm, 9.50pm Kuch Kuch Hota Hal 11.10am, 2.40pm, 6.10pm, 9.40pm Kudrat 2.30pm, 9.30pm The Mask of Zor ro 12noon, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm The Mighty 5pm, 7.10pm, 9.25pm Mother 11.05am, 6.05pm Naseeb 2.55pm, 9.45pm Out of Sight 6.50pm, 9.35pm The Parent Trap 11am, 1.50pm, 4.30pm The Prince of Egypt 11.20am, 1.30pm, 3.40pm, 5.50pm, 8pm Rush Hour 11.50am. 2.05pm, 4.25pm, 6.45pm, 9.10pm Star Trek: Insurrection 11am. 12noon, 1.30pm, 2.15pm, 3.55pm, 4.45pm, 6.30pm, 7.10pm, 8.50pm, 9.35pm Walood 11.35am, 6.25pm What Dreams May Come 11.05am, 1.40pm, 4.10pm, 6.55pm, 9.30pm Zakhm 11.25am, 6.20pm

NORTH FINCHLEY WARNER VILLAGE |0121-446 9344) East Finchley/Finchley 9344) & East Finchley/Finchley Central Antz 4.10pm. 7pm Babe: Fig in the City 10.50am, 1.20pm Enemy Of the State 11.20am. 2.45pm. 6.10pm. 9.10pm The Mask of Zorro 12.30pm. 3.30pm. 6.25pm. 9.20pm Mulan 10.40am The Negotiator 9.25pm The Parent Trap 10.15am, 1.15pm, 2.30pm, 6.30pm The Prince of Egypt 10.20am, 12.50pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.40pm Rush Hour 11.15am, 1.25pm, 3.40pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Small Soldiers 10.25am Star Trek: Insurrection 11am, 1.30pm, 4pm 6.40pm, 9pm What Dreams May Come 12.45pm, 3.20pm, 6.50pm, 9.35pm

FINCHLEY ROAD WARNER VILLAGE (0171-604 3110) & Finchley Road Antz 12.20pm, 2.30pm, 4.45pm, 6.45pm Babe: Pig in the City 12.30pm, 2.50pm Enemy of The State 12.20pm, 3.10pm, 6.10pm 9.10pm The Mask of Zorro 12.40pm, 3.40pm, 6.40pm, 9.40pm Mulan 11am The Negotiator 9.50pm out of Sight 7.05pm The Parent Trap 1.20pm, 4,10pm The Prince of Egypt 11.20am, 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm Rush Hour 5.10pm, 7.30pm, 10pm Smail Soldlers 11.10am Star Trek: insurrection 11.45am, 2.05pm, 4.35pm, 7pm, 9.30pm What Dreams May Come 1pm, 3.35pm, 6.10pm, 8.55pm

GOLDERS GREEN ABC (0181-455 1724) & Golders Green Star Trek: Insurrection 1.45pm, 4.05pm, 6.25pm, 8.45pm GREENWICH

CINEMA (0181-293 0101) BR: Greenwich Elizabeth 1.15pm Enemy of the State 3.20pm, 6.05pm, 8.50pm The Mask of Zor-ro 3.30pm, 6.15pm, 9pm The Parent Trap 1pm The Prince of Egypt 12.45pm Star Trek: Insurrection 2.45pm, 5pm, 7.15pm, 9.30pm



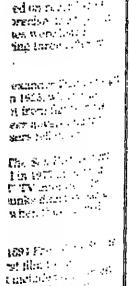
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AMPSTEAD ABC (0870-9020413) ← Belsize Park Enemy of the State 5.25pm, 8.10pm The Parent Trap 2.20pm The Prince of Egypt 1.25pm, 3.45pm Star Trek: Insurrection 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm What Dreams May Come 6pm, 8.30pm

SAFAR! (0181-426 0303) + Harrow on the Hill/Harrow & Wealdstone China Gate 8.45pm Dot Sajake Rakhna 1,30pm, 5pm, 8.45pm The Soldier (Asian Film) 1.30pm

WARNER VILLAGE (0181-427 9009) O Harrow on the Hill Antz 5.50pm, 7.50pmk Babe: Pig in the City 10.50am, 1.05pm, 3.30pm Enemy of the State 9.20am, 10.20am, 12.10pm, 12.55pm, 3pm, 3.50pm, 6pm, 6.40pm, 9pm, 9.25pm The Mask of Zorro 11,25am, 2.25pm, 5.25pm. 8.30pm The Parent Trap 10am, 1.20pm, 4.10pm, 6.55pm The Prince of Egypt 9.35am, 11.50am, 2.05pm, 4.35pm, 6.50pm, 9.15pm Rush Hour 9.30am, 12noon, 2.15pm, 4.45pm, 7.05pm, 9.35pm, 10om Small Soldiers 11am Star Treic Insurrection 10.40am, 1.15pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.45pm What Dreams May Come 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9.05pm

HOLLOWAY
ODEON (08705 050007) & Arch-ODEON (08705 050007) & Archway Antz 12.10pm Babe: Pig In the City 12.10pm Enemy of the State 12noon, 2.20pm, 2.45pm, 5.10pm, 5.35pm, 8pm, 8.35pm The Mask of Zorro 2.05pm, 5.10pm, 8.25pm out Df Sight 5.50pm, 8.35pm The Parent Trap 12.25pm, 3.05pm The Prince of Egypt 12.10pm, 2.20pm, 4.35pm, 6.50pm Rush Hour 3.55pm, 6.25pm, 8.25pm, 9.05pm Star Trek: Insurrection 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.20pm, 8.50pm What Dreams May Conte 12.40pm, 3.05pm, 5.45pm, 8.50pm

ILFORD DDEON (08705 050007) & Gants Hill Babe; Pig in the City 12.05pm Enemy of the State 12noon. 2.40pm, 5.30pm, 8.20pm The Mask of Zorro 2.15pm, 5.15pm, 8.10pm The Parent Trap 12.10pm, 3pm The Prince of Egypt 1.50pm, 4.10pm Rush Hour 8,20pm, 8.40pm Star Trek: Insurrection 1.40pm, 4pp Trek: Insurrection 1.40pm, 4pm. 6.30pm, 8.50pm What Dreams May Come 5.50pm, 8.30pm

TRICYCLE THEATRE(0171-328 1000) O Kilburn Enemy of the State 6,20pm, 8,55pm

KINGSTON UPON THAMES ABC OPTIONS (0870-9020409) BR: Kingston Babe: Pig in the City 12.15pm Enemy of the State 5.15pm, 8.05pm The Parent Trap 2.25pm The Prince of Egypt 1.15pm, 3.30pm Star Trek: Insurrection 1.15pm, 3.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm 1,15pm, 3,40pm, 6,05pm, 8,30pm

MUSWELL HILL ODEON (08705 050007) + Highgate Enemy Of the State 2.50pm, 5.45pm, 8.25pm The Mask of Zorro 5.15pm. 8.15pm The Parent Trap 12.15pm The Princo of Egypt 12.50pm, 3pm Star Trek; Insur-rection 11.40am, 1.50pm, 4.15pm, 6.35pm, 8.50pm

PECKHAM PREMIER (0181-235 3006) BR: Peckham Rye Antz 1.50pm Babe: Pig In the City 12noon Ene-my of the State 12.35pm, 3.20pm, 6.05pm, 8.50pm, 11.35pm (Fri) The Mask of Zorro 3.30pm, 6.15pm, 9pm The Mighty 1.55pm, 4.10pm, 6.20pm, 8.30pm The Parent Trap 11.45am, 2.10pm The Prince of Egypt 2.35pm Rush Hour 2.45pm, 5pm, 7.15pm, 9.30pm Star Trek: Insurrection 4.40pm, 7.05pm, 9.20pm What Dreams May Come 4.35pm, 7pm, 9.25pm

PURLEY ABC (0870-9020407) BR: Purley Babe: Pig in the City 12.05pm En-emy of the State 4.55pm, 8pm The Parent Trap 2.20pm Star Trek: Insurrection 12.55pm, 3.20pm, 6.20pm, 8.30pm What Dreams May Come 5.50pm, 8.20pm

PUTNEY ABC (0870 9020401) + Putney Bridge. Babe: Pig in the City 1.15pm Enemy of the State 5.15pm, 8.15pm The Parent Trap 2.15pm tar Trek: Insurrection 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm What Dreams May ome 5.45pm, 8.25pm

RICHMOND ODEON (08705 050007) BR/G Richmond Enemy of The State 12.10pm. 3pm, 6pm, 9pm Star Trek: Insurrection 1.30pm, 4pm. 6.50pm, 9.30pm

ODEON STUDIO (08705 050007) BR/O Richmond Antz 1pm, 3pm Babe: Pig in the City 1.30pm Out of Sight 6.30pm, 9.20pm The Parent Trap 1.10pm. 3.50pm The Prince of Egypt 12noon, 2.10pm. 4.20pm Rush Hour 5pm, 7.20pm. 9.40pm What Dreams May Come 3.40pm, 6.50pm, 9.20pm

ROMFORD ABC (0870-9020419) BR: Romford Babe: Pig In The City 12.30pm Enemy of the State 5,20pm, 8.10pm The Parent Trap 2.40pm The Prince of Egypt 12.55pm, 3.05pm Star Trek: Insurrection 1.20pm, 3.45pm, 6.10pm, 8.35pm What Dreams May Come 5.40pm, 8.20pm

ODEON LIBERTY 2 (08705 Babe: Pig in the City 12.15pm, 2.20pm, 4.30pm, 6.30pm Enemy of the State 12,905pm, 2,45pm 5.30pm, 8.15pm The Mask of Zor-ro 2.20pm, 5.20pm, 8.20pm The Mighty 9pm Mulan 12.30pm Out of Sight 8.30pm The Parent Trap 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6.15pm The Prince of Egypt 1.45pm, 4pm, 6.15pm, 8.30pm Rush Hour 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 6.45pm, 9pm Small Soldiers 12,10pm Star Trek: insurrection 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.50cm What Dreams May Come 1.35pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm

SIDCIP ABC (0541-555131) BR; 5idcup Babe: Pig in The City 1.15pm The Prince of Egypt 1pm, 3.20pm Star Trek: Insurrection 3.30pm, m, 8.40pm What Dreams May Como 5.45pm, 8.30pm

STAPLES CORNER VIRGIN (0870-9070717) BR: Crickiewood Enemy of the State 2.15pm, 3.15pm, 6.15pm, 9.10pm The Mask of Zorro 12noon, 3pm, 6pm. 9pm The Mighty 8.30pm The Prince of Egypt 12.30pm, 2.30pm, 4.30pm, 6.30pm Rush Hour 3pm, 5,40pm, 9,15pm Star Trek: Insurrection 1pm. 3.25pm. 6.30pm, 9pm What Dreams May Come 2.30pm, 5.35pm. 8.15pm

STREATHAM (0870-9020415) BR: Streatham Hill Antz 1.50pm Babe: Pig in the City 1.45pm the Mighty 4.20pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm The Prince of Egypt 1.40pm. 3.45pm Star Trek: insurrection 3.50pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm What

Dreams May Come 6pm, 8,30pm

ODEON (08705 050007) BR: 5treatham Hill/O Brixton/Clapham Common Babe: Pig in the City 1.10pm Blado 8.40pm Enemy of the State 12.10pm, 2.55pm, 5.40pm, 8.25pm The Mask of Zor-ro 12.20pm, 3pm The Parent Trap 12.20pm, 3pm The Prince of Egypt 12.15pm, 2.20pm, 4.30pm, 6.35pm Rush Hour 3,30pm, 5,50pm, 8.30pm Star Insurrection 1.30pm, 3.50pm,

6.10pm, 8.40pm STRATFORD NEW STRATFORD PICTURE HOUSE (0181-555 3366) BR/O Stratford East Babe: Pig in the City 1.45pm The Mask of Zorro 12.10pm, 3pm, 5.50pm, 8.35pm Tho Parent Trap 12.40pm The Prince of Egypt 12noon, 2.05pm. 4.30pm. 6.45pm Star Trek: insurrection 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 9.10pm What Dreams May Come 9pm **SURREY QUAYS**

UCI (0990 888990) & Surrey Ouays Babe: Pig In The City 3.20pm Enemy of the State 3.40pm. 6pm, 6.40pm, 8.50pm, 9.45pm The Mask of Zorro 9.45pm file Mask of Zorro 3.10pm, 6.10pm, 9.20pm Mulan 10.20am The Negotiator 10pm Out of Sight 8.40pm The Parent Trap 3pm, 5.50pm The Prince of Egypt 3.30pm, 5pm, 7.30pm Rush Hour 7.30pm, 9.50pm Star Trek: Insur-730pm, 9.30pm star free: insur-rection 3.50pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 7pm, 9pm, 9.30pm What Dreams May Come 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9.10pm

TURNPIKE LANE CORDNET (0181-888 2519) O Turnpike Lane. Enemy of the State 3pm. 5.45pm. 8.20pm The Prince of Egypt 4.10pm. 6.30pm.

UXBRIDGE DDEDN (08705 050007) O Usbridge Dr Dollttle 11.40am En-emy of the State 2.10pm, 5.20pm, 8.15pm The Prince of Egypt 12noon Star Trek: Insurrection 1.25pm, 3.50pm, 6.15pm, 8,40pm

WALTHAMSTOW ABC (0870-9020424) @ Walrham stow Central Babe: Pig in the City 12.45pm Enemy of the State 5.20pm, 8pm The Parent Trap 2.45pm Star Trek: Insurrection 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6pm, 8.20pm What Dreams May Como 5,55pm

WALTON ON THAMES THE SCREEN AT WALTON (01932-252825) BR: Walton on Thames Enemy of the Stato 5.25pm 8,10pm The Parent Trap 2.35pm Star Trek: Insurrection 4.15pm 6,30pm, 8.45pm WELL HALL

CDRONET (0181-850 3351) BR: Eltham Tho Prince of Egypt 4.10pm, 6.30pm, 8.35pm WIMBLEDON

ODEON (08705 050007) BR/O Wimbledon/ South Wimbledon Antz 11,30am Babe; Pig in the City 11.45am Enemy of the State 11.45am, 2.30pm, 5.25pm, 8.20pm The Mask of Zorro 1.55pm, 5pm, 8.10pm Tho Parent Trap 1.20pm, 3.55pm Rush Hour 6.30pm 8.45pm Star Trek: Insurrection 12.25pm, 3.10pm, 5.55pm, 8.45pm What Dreams May Como 6pm,

CINEMA REPERTORY

LONDON NFT South Bank 5£1 (0171-928 3232) Saving Private Ryan (15) 2pm The Last of the Mohicans (12) 6.10pm My Song For You: The Archive Presents... (NC) 6.15pm Henry and Juno (18) 8.20pm There's Something About Mary (15) 8.40pm

PRINCE CHARLES Leicester Place NC2 (0171-437 8181) Tho Span-Ish Prisoner (PG) 1pm Still Crazy (15) 3.30pm Le Bossu (15) 6.15pm The Peoplo Vs Larry Flynt (18)

RIVERSIDE STUDIOS Crisp Road W6 (0171-420 0100) Ma Vie En Rose (12) 6.45pm + Ponette

BRIGHTON DUKE OF YORK'S (01273-602503) Henry Fool (18) 1.30pm, 6.30pm My Name Is Joe (15) 4.15pm,

WATERSHED (0117-925 3845) On Connait la Chanson (PG) 5.45pm, 8.20pm The Land Girls (12) 6pm,

ARTS CINEMA (01223-504444) My Name is Joe (15) 12.30pm, 7.15pm The Eel (18) 3pm, 9.20pm The Truman Show (PG) 5.10pm

CHAPTER ARYS CENTRE (01222)

399666) Pépé Le Moko (15)

7.30om Year of the Horse (15) 8pm NEW PARK FILM CENTRE (01243-786650) The Knowledge of Healing (PG) 2pm Still Crazy (15)

CINEMA

COUNTRYWIDE

ALDERSHOT ABC (01252-320355); Babe: Pig in the City (U); Enemy of the State (15); The Parent Trap (PG); The Prince of Egypt (U); Star Trek: insurrection (PG); What Dreams May Come (15)

CARDIT ABC (0541-555178); Antz (PG); Babe: Pig in the City (U); Blade (18): The Prince of Egypt (U); Rush Hour (15)

CAPITOL ODEON (08705-050007): Babe: Pig in the City (U): Enemy of the State (15): The Mask of Zor-ro (PG); The Prince of Egypt (U); Rush Hour (15); Star Trek: Insurrection (PG); What Dreams May

ODEON (08705-050007): Antz (PG): The Mighty (PG): Out of Sight (15): The Parent Trap (PG)

UCI 12 (0990-888990); Antz (PG) Babe: Pig in the City (U); Bade Miyan Chote Miyan (NC): Blade (18): Enemy of the State (15); Kuch Much Hota Hai (PG); Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18); The Mask of Zorro (PG): Mulan (U); The Nogotlator (15); Out of Sight (15); The Parent Trap (PG): The Prince of Egypt (10) Eyeth Hour Prince of Egypt (U): Rush Hour (15); Small Soldiers (PG); Star Trek; Insurrection (PG); There's Something About Mary (15): What Dreams May Come (15)

THEATRE

Ticket availability details are for today; times and prices for the week; running times include intervals.
— Seats at all prices I — Seats at some prices O — Returns only Mati-nees — [1]: Sun, [3]: Tue, [4]: Wed, [5]: Thur, [6): Frl, [7]: Sat

PALARMS AND EXCURSIONS Michael Frayn's oew comedy about a dinner party which is interrupted by mysterious messages stars Felicity Rendel and Josie Lawrence. Gielgud Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5065) & Picc Circ. Monsat 7.45pm. [5)[7] 3pm. £19.50-£27.50. 130 mins.

● AMADEUS David Suchet stars as Salieri in Peter Shaffer's acclaimed drama. Old Vic The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 7616/cc 420 0000) BR/O Waterloo. Mon-Sat 7,30pm, (4) 2.30pm, (7) 3pm, £7.50-£30, 180 mins.

 BEAUTY AND THE BEAST Lav-ish family musical based on Disney's cartoon version of the favourite fairy carbon version of the pavolarge party tale. Dominion Tottenham Court Road, W1 (0171-656 1888) & Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, (5)(7) 2.30pm, £18.50-£35.

● BLOOD BROTHERS Willy Russell's long-running Liverpool musi-cal melodrama. Phoenix Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1733) ◆ Leic Sq/Tott Cr Rd. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, (5) 3.00pm, (7) 4.00pm, £11,50-£32.50. 165 mins.

● BOOGIE NIGHTS 9hane Richie stars in a brand new 1970s musical. Savoy Strand, WC2 (0171-836 8888/cc 0171-836 0479) ← Char-Ing X/Embankment. Mon-Thu 8pm, Fri-Sat 8.30pm, (61 5.30pm, (7) 5pm, ends 9 Jan, £11-£28.50.

● CATS Lloyd Webber's musical version of TS Eliot's poems. New London Parker Street, WC2 (0171-405 0072/cc 0171-404 4079) Ocwent Garden/Holborn. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, (3][7) 3.00pm, £12,50-£35, 165 mins.

O CHICAGO Maria Friedman and Peter Davison star in this hit Broad-way musical about two murderous en and their nightclub act. Adel phi Malden Lane, WC2 (0171-344 0055) & Charing X. Mon-Sat 8pm, (4) (7) 3pm, £16-£36 (inc booking fee), 130 mins.

● FAME THE MUSICAL High-octane stage version of the TV series charting the highs and lows of a class of young showbiz hopefuls. Prince of Wales Coventry Street, W1 (0171-839 5972) & Lek Sa/Picc Circ. Mon-Thu 8pm, Frl 5.30pm & 8.30pm, Sat 4pm & 8pm, ends 16 Jan, £15-£30.

Michael Pennington star in Timber-lake Wertenbaker's new translation of Eduardo de Filippo's play. Pic-cadilly Denman Street, W1 (0171-369 1734) & Picc Circ. In rep tonight 8pm, ends 27 Feb, £12-£30. ● GREASE Energetic stage version

O FILUMENA Judi Dench and

of the hit film about life in an Amer-ican high school Cambridge Eartham Street, WC2 (0171-494 5080) & Covent Garden, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 3.00pm, £10-£30, 150 mlns. AN IDEAL HUSBAND Christoin Peter Hall's acclaimed production

of Wilde's comedy: Lyrk: Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5045) ◆ Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [4] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £8.50-£29.50. 165 mins. ● AN INSPECTOR CALLS Stephen

Daldry's widely-acclaimed produc-tion of JB Priestley's thriller Garrick Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494 5085) O Leic Sq. Mon-Fri 7.45pm, Sat 8.15pm, (4) 2.30pm, [7) 5.00pm, £10.50-£25, 110 mins. INTO THE WOODS Southein

and Lapine's acclaimed musica based on the darker side of fairy tales. WC2 (0171-369 1732) ← Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, (4([7] 2.30pm, £15-£27.50.

• LOVE UPON THE THRONE Tasteful look at the Charles and Diana marriage. Contedy Panton Street, SW1 (0171-369 1731) ↔ Picc Circ/Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 8pm, (4)[7) 3pm, ends 9 Jan, £7,50-£25.

A LES MISERARLES Musical dramatisation of Victor Hugo's masterpiece. Palace Shaftesbury Avenue. W1 (0171-434 0909) & Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, (5)(7) 2.30pm, £7-£35. 195 mins.

Musical which re sets the Modom Butterfly tragedy to Vietnam. Theatre Royal, Drury Lane Catherine Street, WC (0171-494 5060) + Covent Garden, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, (4)[7) 3.00pm,

THE MOUSETRAP Agatha Christie's witodunnit just keeps on running. St Martin's West Street, WC2 (0171-836 1443) • Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 8.00pm, [3] 2.45pm, [7] 5.00pm, £10-£24.50. 135 mins.

MR PUNTILA AND HIS MAN MATTI Sean Foley and Hamish McColl star in a new version of Brecht's comedy satire. Albery St Mardn's Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1730) & Leic Sq. Mon-5at 7.30pm, [5](7) 3pm, ends 9 Jan. 55-

O THE PHANTOM OF THE DPERA Andrew Lloyd Webber's Gothic musical, Her Majesty's Haymarket, SW1 (0171-494 5400/cc 0171-344 4444) & Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. (4)[7] 3.00pm, £10-£35, 150 mlns,

DRENY Musical inspired by La Bo-heme and set in modern day New York. Shartesbury Shartesbury Avenue, WC2 (07000-211221) © Hol-born/Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 3pm, £12.50-£32,50.

ROYAL NATIONAL THEATRE OLIVIER: Peter Pan Stephen Oliver's music accompanies the tale of the Boy Who Would Not Grow Up, with Michael Bryant as the Storyteller. In rep tonight 7.15pm, ends

LYTTELTON: Betrayal Pinter's defining work depicts a menage a trois and stars Imagen Stubbs and Douglas Rodge. In rep tonight 7.30pm, ends 7 Apr, 90 mins.

O COTTESLOE: Haroun And The Sea Of Stories Tim Supple's stage adaptation of Salman Rushdie acclaimed novel. In rep tonight 7.30pm. ends 6 Jan. Olivier & Lyttelton: £8-£27, Cottesloe: £12-£18. NT2000: £4. concs £3. Day seats from 10am, South Bank, S£1 (0171-452 3000). BR/O Waterloo.

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY ● THE BARBICAN: The Tempest Adrian Noble directs Shakespe romance drama. In rep tonight

● THE PIT: The Two Gentlemen Of Verona Shakespeare's withy com-edy is directed by Edward Hall in rep tonight 7.1Spm, ends 28 Jan, Bar-bican Theatre: £5-£26. The Pit: £11-£18.50. Barbican Centre, EC2 (0171-638 8891). BR/O Barbican/Moorgate.

) SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER EIT 1970s musical featuring legendary songs by the Bee Gees and starring Adam Garcia, London Palladium Argyl15treet, W1 (0171-494 5020) Oxford Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. [4][7] 2.30pm, £10-£32.50.

■ STARLIGHT EXPRESS Andrew

Lloyd Webber'a rovamped

hi-tech roller-musical. Apollo Vic-toria Wilton Road. SW1 (0171-416 6070) BR/⊕ Victoria. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [3][7] 3.00pm, £12.50-£30, 150 mins. THINGS WE DO FOR LOVE Belinda Lang stars in Alan Ayekbourn's comedy. Duchess Catherine Street,

WC2 (0171-494 5075/cc 0171-344 4444) ◆ Covent Garden, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, (5))7) 3pm, ends 23 Jan, £15-£27,50, 140 mins. THE WEIR Conor McPherson's drama is set in Ireland and examines ideas of ghosts and angels. Royal Court Downstairs (at the Duke Df York's) St Martin's Lane, WC2

(0171-565 5000) ⊕ Lek: Sq/Char-ing X. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, (4)(7) 3.30pm, £5-£25. 90 mins. WEST SIDE STORY Brand new production of Bernstein's classic production or bernstein's classic musical, attempting to recreate the feel of the original Broadway hit. Prince Edward Old Compton Street, W1 (0171-447 5400) & Leic Sq/fott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5][7) 3pm, £15-£35, 160 mins.

O WHISTLE DOWN THE WIND Lloyd Webber's new musical based on the film of the same name about two children who mistake an escaped convict for Jesus. Aldwych Aldwych, WC2 (0171-416 6000/cc 0171-836 2428) & Holborn, Mon-Sat 7.45pm. (5)(7(3pm, £10-£32.50, 120 mins.

● THE WDMAN IN BLACK Spookily effective version of 5usan Hill's chilling ghost story. Fortune Russell 5treet, WC2 (0171-836 2238/cc 0171-344 4444) ◆ Covent Garden/Holbom. Mon-Sat 8pm, [3] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £8.50-£23.50, 110 mins.

THEATRE BEYOND THE WEST END

KING'S HEAD, ISLINGTON Song at Twilight Noel Coward's dark autobiographical play is directed by Sheridan Morley and stars Corin Redgrave, Tonight 7,30pm, ends 24 Jan £12-£13, concs £7, Upper 5treet, N1 (0171-226 1916) & Angel/Highbury & Islington.

WIMBLEDON THEATRE Cinderella An all-star cast in ti year's panto extravaganza Britt Ekland, Bradley Walsh, Kriss Ak-abusi, Gary Bushell and Generation Game's Melanie Stace. Today 2pm & 7pm, ends 31 Jan. £9-£16.50, concs available. The Broadway, SW19 (0181-540 0362) & Wim-

THEATRE COUNTRYWIDE

BARNSTAPLE DUEEN'S THEATRE Roy Hudd's DICK Whittington Jodi Spiers stars with Douglas Mounce, 4-6, 8, 9 Jan, 7pm, 4-6, 9 Jan, 2pm, £8.50-£11.50, cones available. Boutport Street (01271-324242)

BASINGSTOKE HAYMARKET THEATRE Canterbury Tales Join the Wife of Bath and Chaucer's other characters in Merrie Olde England, 4-9 Jan. 7 45nm 7 Jan, 1,30pm, 9 Jan, 3pm, £10.50-£16.50, concs available, Woto 5treet

BRIGHTON THEATRE ROYAL Mother Goose Christopher Biggins is Mother Goose. Today 2.30pm & 7.30pm, ends 9 Jan. £7.50-£12.50, concs available, Bond Street (01273-328488)

THEATRE ROYAL Mother Goose Panto extravaganza about the fabled fowl. Today 2.15pm & 7.15pm, ends 30 Jan. £3-£16. King Street (0117-987 7877)

CAMBRIDGE CORN EXCHANGE Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs With Coronation Street's Beverly Callard and Nick Cochrane. 4, 5, 7-10 Jan, 2pm, 4, 7-9 Jan, 7pm, 5 & 10 Jan, 5.30pm, 9 Jan, 10.30am, £5-£14. Wheeler Street (01223-357851)

CARDIFF SHERMAN THEATRE The Secret Seven Save the World New adven ture, courtesy of Enid Blyton, and set in 1999. 4-8 Jan, 2pm, 5-7 Jan, 10am, 8 & 9 Jan, 7pm, £6-£10, concs available, Senghenydd Road (01222-

CHELMSFORD CIVIC THEATRE Aladdin Tradi-tional story of a washerwoman's son who falls in love with a beautiful Princess, 4, 6-8 Jan, 5,30pm, 9 Jan. 2pm, 5pm, 8pm, £8.50-£10, concs £6.50-£7.50. (01245-606505)

THE ELGIVA Aladdin and His Won derful Lamp Panto magic in Peking. 4, 5, 7 Jan, 2.30pm & 7pm, 9 Jan. 2pm, 5pm, 8pm, £7-£9.50. St Mary's Way (01494-582900)

CHICHESTER **CHICHESTER FESTIVAL THEATRE** Smokey Joe's Cafe - The Songs of Leiber and Stoller The rocknowl hitmakers celebrated in a musica revue that includes "Jailhouse Rock". 4-7 Jan. 7.30pm. 8 & 9 Jan, 5.30pm & 8.30pm. £6.50-£21.00. Oak-lands Park (01243-781312)

CHIPPING NORTON CHIPPING NORTON THEATRE ALL Baba and the 40 Thieves Panto taken from the Arabian Nights. Today 5pm & 7.45pm, ends 16 Jan. £7.75 E14.75. 5pring Street (01608-642350) DARTFORD ORCHARD THEATRE Aladdin Glad-

I hour Call

(01322-220000)

8980) 2 Feb - 7 Mar Last Call

EXETER
NORTHCOTT THEATRE Dick Whittington Follow the permiless hero as he searches for the streets paved with gold. Tonight 7.30pm, ends 16 Jan. £7-£15 fam £28. Stocker Road BRIGHTON

EYE THEATRE Sleeping Beauty Eye Theatre's seventh family pantomime is action-packed and very funny. 4 & 5 Jan, 2.30pm & 7pm, £6/95-£11.95, concs available, Broad 5treet (01379-870519)

(01392-493493)

GRAVESEND WOODVILLE HALLS The Wizard of Oz Eastooder Barry (Shaun Williamson) follows the Yellow Brick Road. 4 & 9 Jan, 10,30am, 4, 7, 8 Jan. 5.30pm, 9 Jan, 7pm. £5-£9.50. Windmill Street (01 474-337459/60)

HIGH WYCOMBE TOWN HALL Almost Romeo and Juliet Musical panto for adults, 4-9 Jan, 7.45pm. £9. Victoria Street (01494-512000) ANTHONY D'DFFAY Rachel

QUEEN'S THEATRE Dick Whittington and His Kool Kool Kat Favourite songs from the 1960s and 1970s accompany this inter galactic panto. Tonight 6.30pm, ends 23 Jan. £6.50-£13. Biller Lane (01708-443333)

SIR JOHN MILLS THEATRE FEITY Cross the Waveney Sixties story of a Lowestoft fishmonger who has dreams of knocking The Beatles out of the charts. Mon-Sat 7,45pm. ends 16 Jan. £7.75-£9.50, concs availablo, Gatacre Road (01473-

MANSFIELD PALACE THEATRE Petor Pan Gareth Hunt stars in this action-Careti Hum stars in this action-packed adveoture story. Today 2.15pm & 7pm, ends 16 Jan. £6-£8.50, concs available. Leeming 5treet (01623-633133) NEWBURY

WATERMILL THEATRE The Wizard of Oz Follow Dorothy down the Yellow Brick Road. Today 2.30pm & 7pm. ends 16 Jan. £9.50-£14, concs available. Bagnor (01635-

OXFORD PLAYHOUSE THEATRE CINderella Family panto with plenty of songs and audience participation for the dream-ing spires. Today 2pm & 5.30pm, ends 17 Jan. £6-£16.50. Beaumont 5treet (01865-798600)

POOLE POOLE ARTS CENTRE Aladdin Dora Bryan stars as the Slave of the Ring alongside Tracey Childs and Hollyooks' David McAlister. Today 2.30pm & 7pm, ends 16 Jan. £5,90 £11.90, concs available. Kingland Road (01202-685222)

SALISBURY SALISBURY PLAYHOUSE Aladdin Magic carpet ride to Peking and the land of Emperor Foo Wiff Pong. Tonight 2.15pm & 7.15pm, ends 16 Jan. E8-£12.50, concs available Malthouse Lane (01722-320333)

SEVENOAKS STAG THEATRE Dick Whittington Gadiator Diesel stars. Tonight 11 am. 2pm, 7pm. £4.95-£9.95. London Road (01732-450175)

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE
The Winter's Tale Seasonal tale of
obsessive jealousy directed by Gregory Doran. Tonight 7.30pm, ends
4 Mar. £7-£30. Waterside (01789-

SWAN THEATRE Trollus and Cressida Shakespeare's depiction of the human spirit undermined by bloody warfare. Tonight 7.30pm, ends 20 Feb. £5-£30. Waterside (01789-SWANSEA

GRAND THEATRE Cinderella Melin-da Messenger and Steven Houghton star as Cinderella and Prince Charming. Today 2.15pm & 7.15pm, ends 30 Jan. £6.50-£12.75, concs avail able. Singleton Street (01792-SWINDON WYVERN THEATRE Jack And The Beanstalk Exciting family pan-tomine with stars from TV's Rainbow and Doctor Who. Today 2pm &

concs available. Theatre Square (01793-524481) TAUNTON THE BREWHOUSE The Wizard of Oz The classic fantasy of a cyclone which whips Dorothy away from Kansas to a land beyond the rainbow. 4-6, 7-9 Jan, 7-30pm. 7 & 9 Jan, 2,30pm. £10, concs available. Coal Orchard (01823-283244)

7pm, ends 16 Jan, £11.50-£12.50.

WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA CLIFFS PAVILION Cinderella Beila Emberg, Bob Carolgees and Bob-by Davro join in the festive antics with Alf from Home and Away. Today 2.15pm & 7.15pm, ends 16 Jan. £4-£15. Station Road (01702-351135)

WEYMOUTH WEYMOUTH PAVILION Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs Weighbour Madge stars as the Wicked Queen. 4-9 Jan. 7pm, 6 & 9 Jan. 2.30pm. £7.25-£9.25. The iator Cobra stars in this panto spectacular. Today 2pm & 7pm, ends 17 Jan. £7.50-£14. Home Gardens Esplanade (01305-783225)

FIRST CALL, LAST CALL

First Cali

HAILED AS one of the great flamenco guitarists of the century, Paco Peño is a musical solventurer, who combines daring innovation with the style's traditional passion, exuberance and artistry. London will host the world premiere of his new show, Musa Gitana, inspired by the life of Julio Romero de Torres, whose fascination with gypsies and their way of life resulted in the destruction of his own muse at the hands of a jealous lover.

Peacock Theatre, Portugal Street, London WC2 (0171-314

THE Stereophonics' (right) last gig at Cardiff Castle went down as one of the hottest gigs of 1998, and since then the Welsh trio have been lying low. You might have expected a huge marketing push since they signed to Richard Brauson's V2 label, but the band seem more content consolidating their indie fanbase. If you take as evidence just how quickly the Cardiff gig sold out (within hours), the only thing they're missing is a hit. With pundits predicting that their combination of guitar rock and clever lyrics could make them as big as Oasis, the hits should come thick and fast this year. Margate Winter Gardens, Margate (01843 292 795) 26 Apr; Southampton Guildhall (01703 832 453) 27 Apr



EXHIBITIONS

BRIGHTON MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY Maquettes: Henry Moore Maquettes, working models and graphics exhibition. Mon. Tue. Thur-Sat 10am-5pm. Sun 2pm-5pm. ends 10 Jan, free. Church 5treet (01273-2300000) (01273-290900)

BRISTOL ARNDLIFINI Secret Victorians A vision of the 19th-century presented by 20th century artists. Mon-Sat 10am-7pm, Sun 12noon-6pm, ends 31 Jan, free. Narrow Quay (0117-929 9191) WATERSHED Wingwalkers:

WALENDED WINGWAIKETS: Rebecca Goddard and Michelle Henring Computer animation, video and sound pieces. Mon-Sun 9am-11pm, ends 4 Jan, free, Canon's Paged (0117-028-2845) Road (0117-925 3845)

Whiteread Four new pieces by the leading contemporary artist. Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm, Sat 10am-1pm, ends 16 Jan, free, Dering Street (0171-499 4100[BRITISH MUSEUM Earlier Monetary Unions Looking at the history of European common currencies. Ends 10 Jan, free. Claudo Lorrain

Over 100 drawings by the 17th-cen-tury artist, Ends 10 Jan. £1, concs 50p (incl entry to Mantegna to Rubens). Mantegna to Rubens: Drawings From The Weld-Blundell Collection Old Master drawings. Ends 10 Jan. £1. concs 50p (Incl entry to Claude

Lorrain). The Golden Sword: 5 camford Raffles and The East Art and artefacts exploring the Life and work of the founder of Singapore, Mon-5at 10am-5pm, 5un 12noon-6pm, ends Apr 18. £4, concs £2. Great Russell Street. WC1 (0171-636 1555)

DESIGN MUSEUM The Work of Charles and Ray Earnes Over 500 objects by the leading 20th-century objects by the lead design team. Ends 3 Jan. Conran Foundation Collection 1998 Items selected by the Direc-tor of the Motivation charity Mon-Sun 11.30am-6pm. ends 31 Jan. £5.25, concs £4 (to museum). 5nad

Thames. 5E1 (0171-378 6055) Tower Hill/DLR: Tower Gateway. HAYWARD GALLERY Addressing the Century: 100 Years of Art and Fashion Celebrating links between art and fashion with over 250 exhibits including work by Dali, Matisse and Gilbert and George. Mon. Thur-Sun 10am-6pm, Tue & Wed 10am-8pm, ends 11 Jan. £8. concs £3.50, fam-

ily £12. Belvedere Road, 5£1 (0171-960 4242) BR/O Waterloo. ICA GALLERY Die Young Stay Pretty Sculpture, collage, paintings and cut outs by 11 young artists. Mor-Sun 12noon-7.30pm. ends 10 Jan. £1.50. concs £1. Sat-Sun £2.50. concs £1.50. The Mall, SW1 (0171-930 3647) ➡ Charing Cross.

ROYAL ACADEMY DF ARTS Life? or Theatre?: The Work of Charlotte Salomon Powerful paintings made between 1940 and 1942. Mon-Thur, Sat & Sun 10am-6pm. Fri 10am-8.30pm. ends 17 Jan. £5.50, UB40/OAP £4.50, NU5 £4, child 12-18 £2.50.

child 8-11 £1. Burlington House, Pic-cadilly, W1 (0171-300 8000/cc 413 1717) Green Park. SERPENTINE GALLERY Louise Bourgeois Sculpture and installation

TATE GALLERY Turner Prize 1998 Work by Chris Ofili, Cathy De Mon-chaux, Tacita Dean and Sam Taylor-Wood. Ends 10 Jan. £1.50 John Singer Sargent Comprehen-sive exhibition devoted to the paint-

ings of the 19th-century artist. Ends 17 Jan. £6, concs £4. Art Now 16: Something is Missing - Jean-Mart Bustamante In-stallation exploring cities in photographs. Ends 31 Jan, free. Turner in the Alps Works on paper made oo Turner's first Alpine trip in 1802, Ends 14 Feb, free. in Celebration: The Art of The Country House Paintings and sculpture, including work by Canaletto, Stubbs and Holbein, Mon-Sun 10am-

5,50pm, ends 28 Feb, free. Millbank,

SW1 (0171-887 8000) ← Pimilco. VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM Aubrey Beardsley The Illustrator's life and work explored in 200 drawings and prints. Ends 10 Jan. Grinling Gibbons and the Art of Carving Celebrating the work of the 17th-century woodcarver. Ends 24 Jan. Mon 12noon-5,45pm. Tue-5u 10am-5.45pm, ends 31 Jul. £5, concs £3, disabled/UB40/mems/after 4.30pm free. Cromwell Road.

SW7 (0171-938 8441) 👄 South

Kensington.

ST IVES ST IVES TATE GALLERY Displays 1998-9: Partnerships and Practice Paintings and ceramics from the second half of the century. English Roots: Eric Cameron Thousands of layers of paint surrounding prespic objects Ougain dojects. Ougit Montserrat: Veronica Ryan Marble sculpture linking St Ives

with Montserrat in the West Indies.

tho artist's birthplace. Mon 5at

11am-7pm, 5un 11am-5pm, ends 11 Apr. £3.50, concs £2. Porthmeor Beach (01736-796226)

CLASSICAL

LONDON LONDON
PURCELL ROOM Pedro Cameiro
The young solo percussionisi in
recital. Tonight 6pm. £4.50-£7.50.
PLG Young Artists Pianist Nicholas
hagon and the London City Brass
Quintet takes to the stage. Tonight
7.30pm. £5.50-£9.50. South Bank,
55.1 (0.171-960, 42.42) BR/6-5£1 (0171-960 4242) BR/↔

WIGMORE HALL Nikolai Demi-denko Chopin's 24 Preludes. Today 1pm. £7. Hogarth String Quartet Including Beethoven's Op.132 quartet. Tonight 7.30pm. £6-£12. Wigmore Street. W1 (0171-935 2141) ↔ Bond Street/Oxford Circus.

OPERA

LONDON QUEEN'S THEATRE The Pirates of Penzance New D'Oyly Carte Opera production of Gilbert and Sulivan directed by Stuart Maunder. Tonight 7.30pm, £15.50-£29.50. Shaft bury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5040/cc 0171-344 4444) & Piccadilly Circus.

SADLER'S WELLS The Golden Cockerel New production by the Royal Opera of Rimsky Korsakov, directed by Tim Hopkins. Today 2pm. £7.50-£60. Rosebery Avenue, EC1 (0171-863 8000) ⊕ Angel.

DANCE

ST DAVID'S HALL Moscow City Ballot: Cinderella The timeless fairy tale with Tchaikovsky's score. Today 2.30pm & 7.30pm, £19.50-£26.50. The Hayes (01222-878444)

LONDON LYCEUM THEATRE Birmingham Royal Ballet: The Nutcracker Peter Wright's stunning product oright 7.30pm (Lenzi/O'Hare/Cipolla). £12.50-£45. Wellington Street, WC2 (0171-656 1802) Charing

Cross/Embankment. ROUNDHDUSE Stomp Eight per-formers create an unusual rhythmic symphony, Mon-Sat 8pm, mats Sat & Sun 4pm, ends 17 Jan. £10-£25

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL La Fille Mai Gardée Frederick Ashton's Christmas treat for all the family. Today 2pm (Mildor/Sansom), today 2pm (Mildor/Sansom), tonight 7pm (Hatley/Acosta). £10-£48. South Bank, S£1 (0171-960 4242) BR/&

LITERATURE

LONDON BOOKBINDING 1998 Examples from the 1998 Bookbinding Compe-trion on display, plus short-listed novels for the 1998 Booker Prize for novels for the 1998 booker File for Fiction, British Library Foyer Eu-ston Square NW1 (0171-412 7760) & Euston/Kings Cross, Mon, Wed-Frl 9.30am-6pm, Tue 9.30am-8pm, Sat 9.30am-5pm, Sun 11am-5pm,

COMEDY

JOHN HEGLEY AT ALMEIDA THE-JDHN HEGLEY AI ALINEIDA I HE-ATRE The bespectacled bard enter-tains. Tonight 8pm, ends 9 Jan, Almeida Street. N1 (0171-359 4404) & Angel/Highbury & Isling-ton. £10 & £12.50, concs £2.50.

EVERY OTHER MONDAY CLUB AT MORIARTY'S A full bill of new ma-terial from established acts. Tonight 9pm, Liverpool Road, N1 (0181-690 7367] → Angel, £3.50, concs £2.50.

CANAL CAFE THEATRE Sketch Big & Daft featuring Rob Rouse, Ian Boldsworth, Jon Williamson, Stay Alive Pepi featuring Rhys Thomas, Tony Way, Steven Burge, The Great Escape featuring Ben Willbound, Arnold Widdowson and Mackenzie Crook & Royal Oak Willows Crook. O Royal Oak/Warwick Avenue, £5, plus £1 m'ship.

CLUBS

DISCO BABIE AT THE HONEY CLUB Disco night, free to anyone in fancy dress. Tonight 10pm-2.30am, £3. concs £1. King's Road Arches (01273-202807)

THAT'S HOW IT IS AT BAR RUM-BA Gilles Peterson and Ben Wilcox drop funk, jungle and hip hop. Tonight 10pm-3am. Shaftesbury Avenue. W1 (0171-287 2715) & Piccadilly Circus. £4.

SHINKY SHONKY AT THE TUBE Trash, pop and bossa nova, smutty games, caharet and more. Tonight 10.30pm-3am. Falconberg Court. W1 (0171-287 3726) & Totrenham Court Road, £3, before midnight £1, **EVENTS**

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AYLESBURY CHOCOLATE Danger and subversion... An exhibition of contemporary artwork inspired by and made from chocolate. Buckinghamshire County Museum Church Street (01296-331441) Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, 5un 2pm-5pm, ends 31 Jan, £3.50. children (3-6yrs) £2.

ONE HUNDRED YEAR JOURNEY Exhibition documenting the work of Maxine Hall to help children ex-plore their family histories whilst improving their visual literacy and IT skills. Derby Museum And Art Gallery The 5trand (01332-716 659) Mon 11am-5pm. Tue-Sat 10am-5pm, ends 9 Jan, free.

GLOUCESTER MDDERN TIN TOYS FROM AROUND THE WORLD Wide selection of tin toys from 1960s onwards. Gloucester Folk Museum Westeate Street (01452-526467) 10am-Spm, ends 6 Feb, £2, concs £1, Gloucster residents/child free. LONDON

WINTER WONDERLAND ART CAMP (AGES 4-14): CHILDREN'S EVENT Art activities full of festive inspiration from around the world.

The Art Workshop Rosement Road
NW3 (0171-431 5696) & Finchley
Road, Mon-Fri, ends 8 Jan, £120 per week or £30 per day THE GREAT CHALLENGE 1998 International political cartoon exhibi-tion, in aid of Amnesty International,

Art Trust. The Gallery, Oxo Tower Wharf ground floor Bargehouse Street SE1 (0171-928 6193) & Waterloo. Mon-Sun 10am-6pm, ends 10 Jan, free (donations welcomed). SHOW BUSINESS EXHIBITION opera, ballet and film. National Thetre: Lyttelton South Bank SE1

Index on Censorship and the Cartoon

SALTBURN-BY-THE-SEA SALTBURN SMUGGLERS Exciting recreation of an 18th century smugrs' inn telling the story of the illic ittrade on Cleveland's coast Saltburn Smugglors (01287-625252) 10.30am-4pm, ends 9 Apr, £1.65. child £1.15, family £4.35.

(0171-452 3000) BR/O Waterloo

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ST. ALBANS THE REALLY SENSIBLE SHOW A touring exhibition exploring the live senses. Museum of St Albans Hatfield Road (01727-819340) Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2pm-5pm, ends 17

MUSIC

LEKESTER LITTLE WING Hendrix tribute. Half Time Orange Burnmoor Street (0116-254 3077) Tonight 8pm, £2. EXIT, NIGHT FEVE, NUKEATEEN, SINFUL Indie rock line-up. The Shed Yeoman Street (0446-2622255) Tonight 9pm, £3-£4.

MUSIC

LINOLEUM, TV ONE Fierce Panda'a

five-night festival Pandamonium kicks

off with last year's tipped popsters. Bull & Gate Kentish Town Road NW5

JAZZ, WORLD, FOLK LONDON RUSS HENDERSON, DAVE CLIFF Piano and guitar-led modern jazz trios, 606 Club Lots Road SW10

stream US tenor swing saxist Buil's Head Lonsdale Road SW13 (0181-976 5241) BR: Barnes Bridge.

THE JIVE CATS Swing and jump-jive

GARY HUSBAND TRIO Modal jazz pianist, AKA Level 42 drummer. Jazz Cafe Parkway NW1 (0171-9)6 6060) & Camden Town. Tonight

(0171-439 8722) & Tottenham Court Road, Tonight 8.30pm, £10. RAY GELATO GIANTS Las Vegas style swing band. Pizza on the Park Knightsbridge 5W1 (0171-235

5273) & Hyde Park Corner, Tonight 9.15pm & 11.15pm, £18, £16 adv.

CARMEN BRADFORD/TIM GAR-LAND QUARTET Leading jazz vocallst alongside Lammas leader and saxophonist. Ronnlo Scott's Frith 5treot W1 (0171-439 0747) D Leicester Square, Tonight 9pm, £15, mems £4 (Mon-Thur), £20, mems £8 (Fri-Sat)

(0171-352 5953) + Fulham Broadway/Earls Court. Tonight 9.30pm & 12midnight, £4.95. X DIRECTORY COMEDY NIGHT AT SCOTT HAMILTON QUARTET Main-

Tonight 8pm, £7.

LONDON

band. The Improv Tottenham Court Road W1 (0171-387 2414/cc 344 4444) Warren Street. Tonight 8pm, £5-£7.

KEN PEPLOWSKI OUARTET Polished US mainstream clarinet and tenor sexophonist. Ptzza Ek-press Jazz Club Dean Street WI

RADIO 1

RADIO 2

RADIO 3

6.00 On Air.

(88-90.2MHz FM)

(97.6-99.8MHz FM

6.30 Zoe Ball 9.00 Simon Mayo.

12.00 Kevin Greening, 2.00

Mark Radcliffe, 4.00 Chris

Moyles, 6.00 Dave Pearce.

4.00 - 6.30 Scott Mills.

8.00 Lamacq Live. 12.00 The

6.00 Alex Lester. 7.30 Sarah

5.05 Johnnie Walker. 7.00

Bend Special 8.30 Georgie

Rock'n'Roll. 10.30 Richard

3.00 - 4.00 Mo Dutta.

10.30 Artist of the Week

12.00 Composer of the Week:

1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime

7.30 Performance on 3. Philip

Ferguson: Overture for en

Martin (piano), Christopher Malt-

man (baritone), Ulster Orchestra,

conductor Adrian Leaper. Howard

Occasion. Finzi, orch Ferguson:

The Fall of the Leaf, Ferguson; Piano Concerto; Two Ballads.

Finzi: Let Us Garlands Bring.

9.15 Postscript. Five specially

commissioned dramatic mono-

loguee that combine fiction and a

news story. 1: "One Giant Leap",

9.35 Milstein Plays Bach, Violin

10.00 Voices. "Brahms and Be-

vond", lain Burnside introduces e

specially recorded programme of

Katarina Kameus (mezzo), William

Feldeinsamkeit, Op 86 No 2 Ives; In Summer Flelds. Brahms; Murrays

9.00 Draw! (1984) (53549), 8.00 The Bor-

rowers (1973) (37164), 10.00 Hello Agein (1987) (32636), 12.00 Medica (1996)

(99907) 2.00 Cocoon: the Return (1988) (6667). 4.00 Helio Again (1997) (7433). 6.00 Mattida (1996) (79181). 8.00 Mother (1996) (81926). See Pick of the Day 10.00

cat (1995) (93562839), **1.55** The Tomorrow Man (1996) (1852563), **3.25 - 6.00** Break-

7.00 Ferrenes Fatales (23549), 7.30 Movie Magic (8822891), 8.35 Action Heroes (2089346), 9.00 Jane Eyre (1995) (95276).

#LOO The Right Connections (1997)

(88100), **1.00** Fernmes Fetales (15520).

1.30 Movie Magic (8619839). 2.15 Action Heroes (3151891). See Pick of the Day 3.00

Demnation Alley (1977) (87520), 5.00 The Flight Connections (1997) (11855), 7.00

(1997) (32655), 11.00 Adrenain: Fear the

Rush (1995) (310655), 12.20 Showdown in

Little Tokyo (1991) (4807495). 1.40 Intimete Obsession (1992) (454921). 3.15 Patty

Hearst (1988) (137563). 5.00 - 7.00

4.00 The Bandit of Sherwood Forest

(1946) (8218704), 6.00 Every Girl Should Be Married* (1948) (5267051), 7.30 Mer-

chant/lvory: A Partnership in Film (1719988), 8.00 The Householder (1963)

(7691162). 10.00 Bombay Talkie (1970)

(7573872), 3.30 The Virginian* (1929)

(3590476), 5.00 Close.

FILMFOLD

(1767094) 11.50 Days of Wine and Roses*

(1963) (2383013). 1.50 Bad Medicine (1985)

6.00 Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whis-

tie Stop Cafe (1991) (91367988). 8.15 Cal

(1984) (95770433). **10.00** Nothing Personal (1995) (6239094). **11.30** Angel (1982) (7958520). **1.00** The Englishman

Who Went up a Hill but Came down e

Mountain (1995) (5380056). 2.40 Straight

(158723). 4.30 Walker's World (154907). 5.00 Connections 2 by James Burks (1608988). 5.30 Jurassics (124487). 6.00

Animal Doctor (1168100). 6.30 Hunters

(2555810), 7.30 Beyond 2000 (1155636).

As BBC1 London except: 6.30

(17970327). 2.25 News 24 (79588308).

8.00 Twisted Tales (1620100), 8.30 The Supernatural (1616907), 9.00 Storm Force

Out of Brooklyn (1991) (8135501). 4.05 -

8.00 Yojimbo" (1961) (8715696).

4.00 Rex Hunt's Fishing Adventure:

DISCOVERY CHANNEL

BBC1 N IRELAND

Newsline 6.30 (891).

BBC1 WALES

ANGLIA

BBC1 SCOTLAND

Demnation Alley (1977) (79501).

SKY CENEMA

Jane Eyre (1995) (36013), 9.00 Target Earth

1 **11.50** Coov

music by Brahms and by those composing under his influence.

Dazeley (baritone). Brahms:

Sonata No 2 in A minor, BWV1003.

Ferguson: Partita.

By Sue Teddem. (R)

Nathan Milstein

SKY PREMIER

ing in (1969) (93327230).

SKY MOVIEMAX

2.00 The BBC Orchestras.

4.00 Opera in Action.

4.45 Music Machine.

(90.2-92.4MHz FM)

9.00 Masterworks

Francis Poulenc.

5.00 In Tune.

11.00 Sound Stories.

Humphrey Lyttelton. 8.00 Big.

Fame. 9.30 in the Days before

Allinson. 12.00 Lynn Parsons.

Kennedy. 9.30 Ken Bruce. 12.00

Jimmy Young. 2.00 Ed Stewart.

Breezeblock. 2.00 Clive Warren.



NTS

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which flared into rere Salman and n and Gerhard. rzies, and - very after the public3. e late Enoch Pow quite popular. 85 rgie, which interoy's name when managers and a o used of duchess. tingly fashionable nen a Welsbman ham Common and fashionable when

ed in a Californian come to the top 10 1998, the first year n which Diana has L Or can she do it usly? All will be re-

PICK OF THE DAY

the first of HE Bates's various autobiographies, The Vanished themselves represented a

Stevenson right: tucks us in.



4.30 Turning World. 5.00 PM. 5.57 Weather. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.30 I'm Sorry I Haven't a Clue. 7.00 NEWS; The Archers. 7.15 Front Row. The live nightly arts programme, with reviews, news and interviews. Brahms: Abenddammerung, Op 49

three dramatisations from the when the going gets tough, the Marilyn Imrie (1/5). 8.00 NEWS: Dr Graham's School

Bengal created to help the abandoned offspring of British tea planters, and he asks why Anglo-Indians endure in modern India. B.30 Analysis, "More, Better, Nicer?" Why do some historians collapse of the powerful Western secular outlook of the lest 200 years when there is now more money and leisure, better health and housing? Frances Cairneross asks what we mean by progress and whether we are still meking

9.00 NEWS; Nature: Insight. Howard Stableford and leading scientists probe Intriguing mysteries. Did birds evolve from dinosaurs? Do meteorites hold vital secrets? Does Antarctica conceal the origins of life on Earth?

9.30 Start the Week. Jeremy Paxman and his quests set the cultural agenda for the week. 10.00 The World Tonight. With

10.45 Book et Bedtime: Nana. Juliet Stevenson reads Emile Zola's colourful novel of the Parisian demi-monde, a powerful evocation of the corrupt world of the Second Empire that scandalised France on its original publication. See Pick of tha Day (1/15). 11.00 Radio 4 Appeal Devid Bellamy speaks on behalf of the

benefits wildlife and nature conservation. 11-02 Cheese Makes You Dream. 11.30 Scaling the Mountain. 12.00 News. 12.30 The Late Book: The Re-

Wildlife Trusts, a charity which

straint of Beasts. 12.4B Shipping Forecast. 1.00 As World Service. 5.30 World News. 5.35 Shipping Forecast. 5.40 Inshore Forecast. 5.45 Prayer for the Dey. 5.47 - 6.00 Farming Today. RADIO 4 LW

(198kHz)

9.45 · 10.00 Service, 12.00 · 12.04 News; Shipping Forecast. 5.54 - 5.57 Shipping Forecast. 12.00 - 7.00 Test Match Special. RADIO 5 LIVE (693, 909kHz MW) 6.00 Breakfast. 9.00 Nicky Campbell. 12.00 The Midday News.

1.00 Ruscoe and Co. 4.00 Drive. 7.00 News Extra 7.30 Football Legends. Jimmy Armfield talks to some of the great footballers. 1: Kevin Keegan. 8.00 Trevor Brooking's Monday Match. Featuring full commentary on tonight's tie in the FA Cup third round

10.00 Late Night Live. Nick Robinson sets tomorrow's egenda today. Including, at 10.30, a full round-up of the day's sport, and, at 11.00, a late news briefing. 1.00 Up All Night. 5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports.

CLASSIC FM (100.0-101.9MHz FM) 6.00 Nick Bailey. 8.00 Henry Kelly. 12.00 Requests. 2.00 Con certo: Kabalevsky: Cello Concerto No 1. Marina Tarasova, Russian SO/Veronika Dudarova, 3.00 Jamie Crick. 6.30 Newsnight. 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. 9.00 Evening Concert: Dvorak: String Quartet No 12 in F. Op 96. Chilingirian Quartet. Suk: Serenade for strings. London Chambe Orchestra/Christopher Warren-Green. Suk: Praga. Royal Liverpool Phitharmonic/Libor Pesek. Smetana: Hakon Jarl Raverian RSO/Rafael Kubelik, Dvorek: Silen Woods. Ofra Harnoy (cello), Prague SO/Charles Mackerras. 11.00 Alan Mann. 2.00 Concerto. 3.00 - 6.00 Mark Griffiths. VIRGIN RADIO

(1215, 1197-1260kHz MW 1058MHz FM) 6.30 Chris Evans. 9.30 Bobby Hain, 1.00 Nick Abbot, 4.00 Harr et Scott, 7.30 Mark Forrest, 10.00 Janey Lee Grace. 1.00 James Merritt. 4.30 - 6.30 Jeremy Clark. WORLD SERVICE RADIO (198kHz LW)

1.00 Newsdesk. 1.30 Seven Days 1.45 Wild Tales 2.00 Newsday. 2.30 On Screen, 3.00 World News. 3.05 World Business Report. 3.15 Sports Roundup. 3.30 Watershed. 4.00 - 7.00 The World Today.

TALK RADIO 6.00 Bill Overton and Sally Meen 9.00 Scott Chisholm. 12.00 Lorraine Kelly. 2.00 Anna Raeburn. 4.00 Peter Deeley, 5.00 The Sports Zone, 8.00 Jemes Whale, 1.00 - 6.00 Gordon Astley.

May to December (9964810). 7.4Q The

(1143758). 8.20 The Comedy Alternat

Jongleurs (24580926), 11.45 The BE

Spender (2170582), 1.40 Onedin Line

LIVING

Comedy Alternative: It Ain't Half Hot, Mum

Yes, Minister (3853520), 9-00 The Missing

Postmen (18742810), 10.40 Best of Live at

(7973471), 12.45 The Bill (5247414), 12.45

(32639124), 2.55-7.0 Snopping (13590583).

5.00 Tiny and Crew (49910297). 6.20

Philipert the Frog (29896384), 6.30 Johnson and Friends (64694100), 6.45 Tiny

Tales (17029617). 6.50 Polka Dot Shorts

(5376433). **7.30** Callou (5206926). **7.3**5

ing (6827278), 8.00 Barney and Friends

18907). 8-30 Tiny Tales (7543278).

Practical Parenting (9403278), 9.00 Diet Show (2104758), 9.30 The Roseanne Show (3038346), 10.00 The Jerry

Springer Show (6886891). 10.50 Maury Povich (5613759). 11.40 Brookside

(4625365). 12.40 Rescue 911 (13743452)

110 Special Bables (23001891), 1.40 Be-

yand Bellef: Fact or Fiction (79676162).

2.50 LA Law (3795487). 3.50 The Jerry Springer Show (7558568). 4.00 Michael

Cole (4145891). 4.50 Rolonda (8005425).

5.40 Ready, Steady, Cook (7959758). 6.45 The Jerry Springer Show (147487). 7.05 Rescue 911 (4264297). 7.25 Animal Rescue (9647617). 8.00 Murder Call

(1987) (7698075). 11.00 Sex Life Down Under (3758988). 12.00 Close.

9.00 The Great Caruso (1951) (40347926).

1L00 The Roaring Twenties* (1939) (21532452), **1.00** Savage Messiah (1972) (2**5**90476), **3.00** The Great Caruso (1951)

PARAMOUNT COMEDY CHANNEL

(8297), 8.00 Rosearine (1278), 8.30 Just Shoot Me (3013), 8.00 Cybil (72704), 9.30

7.00 Clueless (8758). 7.30 Desmond's

Seinfeld (21043), 10.00 Frasier (66704).

Fun I (84549). 11.30 The Larry Sanders Show (36549). 12.00 Late Night with

David Letterman (17330). 1.00 Taxi (58124). 1.30 The Critic (95143). 2.00 Dr Katz

(81501). 2.30 Scap (77308). 3.00 Wings

(38380), 3.30-4.00 Nightstand (51360).

10.30 Cheers (75452), 11.00 Fes

(40035704) 5.00 Close

(7695988), 9.00 Film: Maid to Order

(56434100), 12.10 Animal Rescue

8.35 Tirry and Crew (899-1988), 8.50

Bug Alert (6346162), 7.55 Practical Parent-

(17032910). 7.00 Practical Parenting (5392452). 7.05 Professor Bubble

INDEPENDENT PURSUITS

<u>CHESS</u> JON SPEELMAN

1.d4 Nf6

EVEN IN these days of huge computer databases, the arrival of the latest edition of Chess Informant is still an event of some importance for professional chess players.

Produced by Chess Informant of Beigrade, the first volume came out as long ago as 1966, since when it has appeared initially twice and latterly three times yearly. Each edition contains round about 650 or 700 games from the relevant period.

As always, I turned first to the results of the panel of the (supposedly) great and good, myself among them: as to the best games of the previous volume. In fact, there are two panels, one for best games which I've been e member of for nearly 30 volumes; and one for the best theoretical oovelty consisting of gentlemen considerably more theorebcally knowledgeable than myself. The members are sent a short list of 30 from which to choose, My top selectioo came just seveoth: though like the winning entry, it was also conducted by the incomparable Vassily Ivanchuk

In this manically theoretical line, the first oew move was Svidler's 20...h5 - 20...Nc6 had been played before. In his notes, Ivanchuk suggests thet 22...Qa3 is an improvement and criticises 30...5? suggesting 30...a6 or 30...Bc6.

The very strong 31.d5! broke up Black's structure but the result remained in doubt eveo after lvanchuk won material with

38.Rxg7+!. Black could have pro-

vided more resistance with 39...24 though after 40.Bxb7 Rb8 41.Ba6 a3 42.Bc4 Kf7 43.Bc5 Rc8 44.Bxe6+ Kxe6 45.Bxa3 White must have excellent winning chances. Ivanchuk won cleanly in the queen ending after both sides promoted.

Vassily Ivanchuk v Peter Svidler Linares 1998 **Grunfeld Defence**

30.Bd3 f5?

2.c4 g6 31.d5! fxe4 3.Nc3 d5 32.Bxe4 Bxd5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 33.Bxg6 Rb7 34.Rxb7 Nxb? 5.e4 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Bg7 35.Be3 a5 36.Bxh5 Bc6 7.Nf3 c5 8.Rb1 0-0 37.Rg4 Bxf3 38.Rxg7+!Kxg7 9.Be2 cxd4 39.Bxf3 Rb8 10.cxd4 Qa5+ 11.Bd2 Qxa2 40.Bf4 Rd8 41_Bxb7 a4 12.0-0 b6 13.Qc1 Bb7 42.Be5+ Kg8 43.h5 Rd1+ 14.Bc4 Qa4 15 Bh5 Qa2 44.Kh2 Re1 16.Bc4 Qe4 45.f4 Rxe5 17.Bb5 Qa2 46.fxe5 a3 47.Bc8 Kf7 18.Re1 Rc8 48.h6 a2 19.Od1 e6 49.Bxe6+ Kxe6 20.h4 h5 21.Qe2 Nc6 50.h7 a1Q 22.Bc4 Qa4 51.h8Q Kd5 23.Ra1 Oc2 52.Qg8+ Ke4 24. Bd3 Ob2 53.Qg6+ Kd5 25.Ra4 b5 54.Qf7+ Ke4 26.Bxb5 Rd8 55.Qg6+ Kd5 56.Qf7+ Ke4 27.Bg5 Qxe2 28.Bxe2 Rd7 57.e6 Qh8+ 29.Rb1 Nd8 58.Kg3 1-0

BRIDGE ALAN HIRON

WHEN YOU are threatened with an adverse ruff, it is a natural reaction to ettempt to draw your opponeots' trumps. On this deal from match play, one declarer followed this simplistic policy, and failed - the other managed to read a little more into the situation. The bidding was the same at

both tables. Against silent opposition North opened One Diamond and rebid One Spade over his partner's beart response

South bid his hearts again and North had no trouble in raising to game. West led +10 against Four Hearts and this was obviously from a short suit

There was an informative clue which could have been spotted - both Wests had thought about their lead for e while - with e singleton, they might well have made e rather quicker decision!

This is the sort of pointer of which declarer takes advantage at his own risk, but an opponeot should not hesitate too long with an obvious play. Ideally, he plays all his cards in even tempo.

Assuming that the lead was from ◆10x, ooe declarer started oo trumps. East won the first and returned a spade.

Now, when West got in with ™K, winners.

Game all; dealer North North **◆**A K 9 5 ♥J74 0AQ972 4K West East **4** J0 2 **\$8764** ♥K32 ∇A **♦J84** OK 1053 108743 **♣**A962 South **◆**0J3 ♥Q 109865 **\$6** ♣QJ5

he was able to give his partner the lead with #A and take a spade ruff to defeat the contract.

The other declarer however was to take e wise precaution. After winning the first trick on the table. he led +K to East's ace. A spade came back and still not touching trumps, South woo in hand and cashed +QJ, discarding dummy's remaining spades.

After this, at last, it was safe to tackie trumps and the defenders were restricted to their three top

CONCISE CROSSWORD

No.3810 Monday 4 January 21 22 DOWN

ACROSS Maritime traffic (8)

Valley (4)

9 Fire-raising (5) 10 Annals (7) 11 Spot cash (5,5)

Cricketers (6-7) 16 Member of congregation (10) 20 Cure-all (7) 21 Vegetable (5)

22 Musical symbol (4) 23 Scrape (8)

Example (8) Flower (5) E Anglian holiday area (7,6) Land measure (4) Compass point (4) Plan (6) 12 Type of milk pudding (8) 13 Alienate (8) 15 Professional code (6) 17 Fuss (3-2)

18 Bridge (4) 19 Biting insect (4)

Birds (8)

Solution to last Saturday's Concise Crossword: ACROSS: I Whelk, 4 Hum (Welcome), 7 Hair, 8 Aardvark, 9 Delicatessen, 10 Lodger 13 Emboss, 15 Relationship, 19 Impudent, 20 Obey, 21 Nee, 22 Range, DOWN: I Weave 2 Earring, 3 Koala, 4 Hives, 5 Marines, 6 Breeze, 11 Oarsmen, 12 Rather, 14 Bassoon, 1t Louse, 17 Outer, 18 Irené.

MONDAY RADIO

EVERY MORNING this week, illicit boxing. Although Franks's Philip Franks is reading from World (9.45am R4). Mondays temporary reprieve in the harsh working lives of the novelist's shoemaking family, they joined the rush to the east Midlands countryside for a healthy spot of rabbiting, mushrooming and

earnest delivery softens the gritty feel of these early childhood memories, the writing is soberly evocative. The new Book at Bedtime (10.45pm R4) is Nana, Emile Zola's portrait of a Parisian prostitute moving through the moral cesspit of Second Empire society. Juliet DOMINIC CAVENDISH

Ermordung, Op 14 No 3. Stanford: La belle dame sans merci. Brahms: Vergebliches Standchen, Op 84 No 4. Strauss: Hat gesagt - bleibt's nicht dabei, Op 36 No 3. Brahms: Sapphische Ode, Op 94 No 4; Wie Schoenberg: Verlassen, Op 6 No 4. Somervell: White in the Moon the Long Road Lies (A Shropshire Lad).

10.45 Mixing It. Mark Russell and Robert Sandell present the final part of the "Mixing It" listeners' top ten elbums of the yeer poll. 11.30 Jazz Notes 12.00 Composer of the Week: Camille Saint-Saens. (R) 1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night.

rafft ich mich suf in der Nacht.

Radio 4 (92.4-94.6MHz FM) 6.00 Today. 9.00 NEWS; Start the Week. 9.45 Serial: The Vanished World. See Pick of the Day 10.00 NEWS; Woman's Hour. 11.00 NEWS; Benn's Gallery. 11.30 My Gaiety Girls. 12.00 NEWS; You and Yours. 12.57 Weather. 1.00 The World at One. 1.30 Counterpoint. 2.00 NEWS; The Archers. 2.15 Afternoon Play: Enoch

Arden 3.00 NEWS; Money Box Live: 0171 580 4444. 3.30 The Melting Pot. 3.45 This Sceptred Isle. 4.00 NEWS; The Food Programme,

7.45 Under One Roof. The last of Michele Hanson stories. As everyone faces chilly, hard-up January, Gillian and her family believe that tough go shopping. With Janet Maw and Edna Dore. Director

Tim Jenkins visits a school in talk of a crisis of progress and the



PICK OF THE DAY

SEAN CONNERY (right) ooce Receiving its satellite première damn James Bond. I'd like to kill him." For all that, the role of 007 was the making of the Scottish actor, who is now perhaps our leading light in Hollywood. Very unfairly, even as he approaches 70, he still regularly tops polls for the world's most fanciable man and is able to cherry-pick the projects be wants. He is profiled in today's Action Heroes (2.15pm Sky Moviemax).

said: "I have always hated that tonight, Albert Brooks's comedydrama, Mother (8pm Sky Premier), centres on an author (Brooks) who can't seem to make marriage work. Thinking that bis problems might be ettrihutable to his ewful reletionship with his mother (Debbie Reynolds), he returns home to live with her and to try to work out where he is going wrong with women. JAMES RAMPTON



(9541278). 10.00 Fire (9544365). 1L00 Air Power (2288461). 12.00 Jaws in the Med (3148853). 1.00 Connections 2 by James Burke (4320872). 1.30 Ancient Warriors (9615563), 2.00 Close. SKY ONE 7.00 Count Duckula (2181), 7.30 The

Chris Evans Breakfast Show (24810), 8.30 Hollywood Squares (68538), 9.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (1365). 10.00 The Oprah Wintrey Show (39100). 11.00 Guityl (28636). 12.00 Jenny Jones (42013). 1.00 Mad about You (20452). 1.30 Jeopardy (38549). 2.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (8462). 3.00 Jerny Jones (40/81). 4.00 Guilty! (36968). 5.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (7487). 6.00 Married with Children (8891). 6.30 Friends (2471). 7.00 The Simpsons (2988). 7.30 The Simpsons (8655). 6.00 Star Tiek: Deep Space Nine (87100), **9.00**First Wave (74636), **10.00** South Park (18033), **10.30** Seinteld (15471), **11.00**Friends (37617), **11.30** Earth: Final Conflict (83704), 12.30 Highlander (74124), 1.30 -

SKY SPORTS 1 7.00 Footbal (\$5520), 8.00 Futbol Mundial (64346). 8.30 Racing News (63617). 9.00 Aerobics - Oz Style (87297). 9.30 Gillette World Sport Special (94029). 10.00 Scottieh Football Rangers v Celtic (55162), 11.00 Watersports World (75926) 12.00 Aerobics - Oz Style (67433). 12.30 What a Weekend (92617), 1.00 Football (13100), 2.00 Spanish Football (36407).

4.00 Total Sport (3742), 4.30 What a Weekend (9926), 5.00 Max Power (9487). (754487). 10.00 Sky Sports Centre (927471). **10.15** You're on Sky Sports (987146). **10.45** Footbell Langue Review (728384), 11.45 Sky Sports Centre (820297), 12.00 You're on Sky Sports (17143). 12.30 Footbell (19740). 2.00 Football Leegue Review (96940). 3.00 Sky Sports Centre (97028389). 3.45 Close.

SKY SPORTS 2 7.00 Aerobics - Oz Style (9925278), 7.30 Racing Naws (9937073), 8.00 Motorcycling (662647)), 9.00 International Crickel South Africa v West Indies (2747655), 11.00 Internetional Cricket Australia v England (2039520), 1L30 International Cricket South Africa v West Indies (4917181). 4.00 International Cricket Australia v England (2635452), 6.30 V-Max (4432297), 7.00 Footbell (27329781), 10.15 World Windsurf-International Cricket Australia v England G7845201, 2.00 V-Max (8729637), 2.30 .

et South Africa v West Indies (77140805). EUROSPORT 7.30 Raily: Total Granada Daker 98

Nordic Combined Sking (55723), 10.00 Alpine Sking (53758), 11.00 Raily: Total Granada Dakar 99 (89094). 11.30 Ski (71510), 6.30 Xtrem Sports (65891), 7.30 Xtrem Sports Yoz Mag (39278), 8.30 Trial UK GOLD

8.30 The Bill (8637568), 9.00 The Bill (8611520), 9.30 The House of Elott (1240100), 2.55 The BR (1760817), 3.25 The 58 (8980384), 3.55 EastEnders (3757437), 4.30 Angels (156365), 5.00 (1612181). 9.00 New to Gold; Dynasty (4197988), 7.00 The Cornedy Alternative:

1

6.00 Sky Sports Centre (2461), 6.30 What a Weekend (4471), 7.00 NFL

7.00 International Cricket (9290018). SKY SPORTS 3 12.06 Darts: World Championships

(51345), 8.00 Alpine Sking (39617), 9.00 Amping (8947). 1.00 Snowboarding (64810). 1.30 Snowboarding (18364). 2.00 Alpine Skiing (28520). 3.00 Figure Skating (91839). 4.00 Tennis (18759). 5.30 Bowling (4162) 9.30 Raily: Total Granada Dakar 99 (87609). 10.00 Boxing (87159). 11.00 Offroad (54487). 12.00 Raily: Total Grana-

7.00 Crossroads (3939159) 7.30 Neigh bours (9411758), 7.55 EastEnders (1279617). (2680723), 10.30 Angels (8617704), 11.00 Dalles (6042839), 11.55 Neighbours (98994487). 12.25 EastEnders (7738891). 1.00 Juliet Bravo (4100452). 2.00 Dates New to Gold: All Creatures Great and Small

8.30 International Cricket Australia v England (96907839), 11.00 Second Innings (£2558487), 11.30 Closs

da Dakar 99 (98281). 12.30 Close().

ing (2283471). 10.45 Total Sport (2282742). 7.00 Long Play (5295872). 11.15 Sky Sports Centre (9723655), 11.30

(19447636), 3.00 World Windsurfing (19896384), 3.30 V-Max (42936346), 4.00 Motorcycling (62557758). 5,00 Football League Review (19889636), 6.00 Total Sport (42038758), 6.30 International Crick-

HTV WEST As HTV Wales except: 6.25 HTV West Weather (712100). 6.30 The West Tonight (87).

North East Sussex, shot during five days in late February, and featuring five days ple, its wildlife and its natural history. Presented by Jim Flegg (87), 10.30 Meridian News and Weather (592617).

2.45 Film: Dracula* (1868327). 4.00 Trisha (5228317). 4.55 ITV Nightscreen (78586719). 5.00 Freescreen (53196). WESTCOUNTRY As Cariton except: 10.25 This

AS Cariton except: 10.25 This Morring (62967487). 12.15 Westcountry News (9682691). 12.27 Burninations (6396758). 1.00 High Road: The hospital holds a ceremony for Morag and Tom's beby, but Tom is still having trouble facing up to their loss. Victor confronts Trish about the mission money. about the missing money (79758): 3.20 Westcountry News (2216181). 6.00 West-country Live: A round-up of news, views and features from across the region, pre-sented by Alson Johns and Richard Bath (91365), 10.30 Westcountry News (592817), 2.45 Film: Dracula* (1869327), 4.00 Trishs (5228817), 4.55 ITV

YORKSHIRE As Carlton except: 12.20 Calendar As Carron except 1220 carroar News and Weather (825839). 1.00 Home and Away (79758). 2.15 Corona-tion Street (16723). 3.20 Calendar News Headlines (2276181). 6.00 Calendar (907). 6.30 Toright (87), 10.30 Cal-endar News and Weather (592617). 4.50

TYNE TEES As Yorkshire except: 12.20 North East News and Weather (8215839). 3.20 North East News Headlines (2216181). 5.40 News; Weather (492588). 5.55 North East Weather (195384), 6.00 North East Toright (91385), 10.30 North East News and Weather (592617).

As Channel 4 except: 10.00 Film:

The Four Feethers (51730810), 12.05 Here's One I Made Earlier (51768487). 12.30 Sesame Street (38805926), 1.00 Planed Plant (47305029), 1.30 The Ocean World of John Stoneman (38804297). 2.00 Time Team (35017758). 3.00 Garden Doctors (58937887). 4.00 Fifteen to One (56504568). **4.30** The Montel Williams Show (56593452). **5.00** Planed Plant (53987182), 5.30 Countdown (5588704), 6.30 News (69463094), 6.10 Heno (95165891), 7.90 Pobol y Cwm (63882538), 7.30 Newyddion Cwm (6366238), 7.30 Newyddion (56594181), 8.00 Dudley (57587148), 8.30 Pwy di Pwy (72337443), 9.00 Y Byd ar Bedwar (24167704), 9.30 Sgorio (19056723), 10.35 FBm; White Men Can't Jump (85302487), 12.40 Arthouse (45245124), 1.40 Close.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

Weather (592617), 2.45 Film; Dracula* (1889327), 4.00 Trisha (5228817), 4.55 ITV Nightscreen (78558719), 5.00 Coro-CENTRAL As BBC1 London except: 2.55 As BSC1 Conton extends 233 Luch is Famh (Mouse and Mole) (8274346) 3.00 Orain agus Rannan (Song and Rhyme) (2218549). 3.05 Padralg Post (Postman Pat) (5875986). 6.00 News (839). 6.30 Reporting Scot-land; Weather (891). As Cariton except: 12.20 Central News and Weather (6215839). 1.00 High Road (79758). 3.20 Central News (2216181). 5.10 Shortland Street: Serial set in an accident and emergency clinic in Auckland, New Zealand (6602510). As BBC1 London except: 6.30 Wales Today (891). 10.55 Anogether Now (525704). 11.25 Match of the Day (303609). 12.40 Film: Havana

6-00 Home and Away (440346), 6.25 Central News and Weather (394704). 10.30 Central News and Weather (592617), 3-55 Jobfinder (2255124). 5-20 Asian Eye (4542105). HTY WALES As Carlton except: 10.25 This ANGLIA
As Cariton except: 12.20 Anglia
News and Weather (6215839): 1.00 Upshot (79758): 1.30 Home and Away: Vinnie begs Justine for forgiveness. Will,
Sam, Hayley and Gypsy go walking in
the bush but end up with unwelcome
company (82817): 2.00 The Jerry
Springer Show (2138297): 3.20 Anglia
News and Weather (2216181): 5.40
Shortland Street (8602510): 6.00 Home
and Away (440345): 6.25 Anglia News
(394704): 10.30 Anglia News and Morning (62967487). 12.15 HTV News (9682891). 1.00 Shortland Street (962291), 1.00 Shortland Street (79758), 1.30 Home and Away (82617). 2.00 The Jerry Springer Show (2139297), 3.20 HTV News (2216161). 5.10 A Country Practice (8602510), 6.00 Home and Away (440348), 6.25 Weles Tonight (394704), 10.30 HTV News (592617), 2.45 Film: Dracule*: Vintage

version of Bram Stoker's horror story, Aristocratic Transylvanian vampire Count

Dracuta arrives in England, where he

feeds off the blood off genteel ledles. Only the learned Dr Van Helsing stands between Dracula and his plans for a new army of the undead. Bela Lugosi turns in a performance that was to type-cast him for ever (1869327). 4.00 Trisha (5228817). 4.55 Nightscreen (78558719). 5.00 Coronation Street (53196).

MERIDIAN MERIDIAN
As Cariton except: 10.25 This
Morning (62967487). 12.15 Meridian
News and Weather (966289)). 1.00
Shortland Street (79758). 1.30 Home
and Away (82677). 2.00 The Jerry
Springer Show (2139297). 3.20 Meridian
News and Weather (2216181). 5.10 Home
and Away (8620570). 5.27 Those kim. news and washer (22 rolsh). 5.30 Home and Away (8602510). 5.37 Three Minutes (175520). 6.00 Meridian Tonight (907). 6.30 Country Ways: A film portrait of the countryside and villages surrounding Hedlow Down near Uckfield in

Nightscreen (78556719). 5.00 Coronation Street (53196).

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Section 25.



ROBERT HANKS

THEE DAYS into 1998, ond already the dawn of the new millennium is starting to seem oppressively class. You don't need to be a weathermon to know that, by the end of the vent you can expect a

millionnhun white-out, ordinary programmes buried by a blizzard of milliannial features. Thu first flurry enme yestertlay. Sun Wars (FTV) fooled at the practicel question of where the milliannium will begin. By international convention every day begins at midright at the Greenwich Observotory, o fact which gives Mandelsoria folly an unshakabie logal foundation, even if, in aseithetic and intellectual terms, it is built on eart!

Legal definitions don't count for much when there is tourist money to be made, though. Several other locations see in the New Year a good 12 hours before Greenwich and can thus plausibly claim to be the best piece to greet the millennium—most of them are warmer than south London in Januery, too. Fill, for inalance, elts right on the 180 degree rocridian, precisely on the authorities have used satellite surveying to astablish the precise spot where the line passes, and have marked it with a large stick with a piastic bag on top—something grander is planned, but it probably won't heve quite the same resonance. Unfortunately for the Fijians,

the vagaries of the International Date Line mean that Tonga is an hour ahead of them, and the Tongans plan to use the thus to produce the first baby of the new millennium (how they can guarantee slotting one in during such e thry window wasn't revealed). Meanwhile, to the chagrin of Tonga, the Kirlbati Islands are another hour ahead, luying Impending doom on a more personal scale was tha subject of Lost for Worda (Tly, Sun), e dramatised version of Deric Longdan's account of coping with his mother's slow decline. Thora Hird was thoroughly at home with Mother's eccentric view of things ("They're bifocals. You can read a book and look at your feet at the same time"), and with her aide from indomitable doffness to ruefully smiling helpleasness. Pete Postlathwaite, on the other hand, didn't bring much conviction to the earnest, infinitely patient Deric.

But you could see his problem. This was decay and death deprived of almost everything that makes it painful or undignified. When Deric worried about putting his mother in o home, her GP ewiftly reassured him that he hed done everything list could be expected, that he'd been under tremendous strain - but the strain was hard to detect. The scene in last week's pillot for Buffy the Vernythre Strayer in which Xondor confronted his heart trans least, now

miltrannes deas is rauser arbitrary was confirmed by Sunday night's Equinox: Apocelypse When? (C4, Sun). This potted history of the calender, from prindthe moon warship to atomic clocks, was accompanied by an account of apocatyptic cults through the ages. It was explained how a milicunium, in the ordinory sonse of a thousand years, got muddled with the idea of The sense that the whole illcanial deal is rather bifrary was confirmed by nother hour shead, having illaterally shifted the ternational Date Line o few 0 miles to the east

TELEVISION REVIEW

Revelation of St John the Revelation of St John the Divine is the run-up to the Last Judgement.

Having established that the only connection between years with three zeros and impeacing Armageddon was on illusory one, the programme then tried to apin something out of the cloim that "a wave of millennial fever is building", finding n lot of pop-video imagery but no solid evidence to back it up. Thua, there have been a lot of books around with "end" in the title - Francis Pukuyame's The End of History being the locus classicus of the genre - but that probebly has more to do with the problieration of really large bombs and the collepse of really large political systems than with subliminatic clock-watching. And the world has never been short of predictions of its own demise. The millennium bug might well produce ha own version of Armageddon, if only because panic-buying in the run-up to Y2K may cause petrolsteel in our reason to ateer elear of contradictory nonsense like this.

20 **200**

DRAMA OF THE DAY

THE VICE (9pm ITV, night) You know it's going to be that British speciality, n "gritty drannn", when the opening scene features one prostitute being raped by her pimp. David Hinkley, and a bare 15 minutes later anothor one is desd. All in a dreadful day's work for Inspector Chappel, played with superb wearlness by Ken Stott. Barry Simmer's two-part tale, the first of three, pita the inspector against not one but two pimps engaged in a turf war. In order to prosecute Hinkley for living off immoral carnings, Chappel needs a statement from the repe victim, but he faces a struggle in getting her to overcome her fear. It all sounds horribly plensible.

"Time" season with the story of John Harrison, the self-taught country carpenter who made it possible to accurately estentiate longitude. It may not seem like the most fascinating topic, but it was important enough in 1714 for parliament to offer e prize equivalent to fam today for e solution to this tricky navigational problem. The first 15 minutes drag, but etick with it. The dramatised sections, with Patrick Malahide reading from Harrison's journals, are nicely intercut with the requisite professorial talking heads, and you're finally left with

t possible to accurately seem like the most fascinating ugh in 1714 for parliament to today for e solution to this to first 15 minutes drag, but ections, with Patrick Malahide als, are nicely intercut with the eads, and you're finally left with the linearment.

DOCUMENTARY OF THE DAY

BBC

8.00 Kilroy (S) (T) (8809617). 9.45 The Venessa Show (S) (T) (5445467). t0.85 Newe: Regional News; Weather (T) (723161), t1.00 Real Rooms (S) (7321758). tt.25 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (B) (T) (7228617), tt.55 News; Regional News: Weather (T) (1444013), 12.00 Call My Bluff (S) (63094). 12.30 Bettarsea Doge Home (S) (T) (98276), 1.00 News; Weather (T) (7162), t.30 Regional News and Weether (86832617), t.40 Nalighbours (S) (T) (65612433), 2.05 Ironside (R) (7905907), 2.56 Going for a Song (S) (6880162), 3.20 The Weather Show (S) (T) (2221013).

3.25 Children's 6BC: Playdays (R) (S) (1275902), 3.45
The Littlest Pet Shop (S) (9307365). 3.56 Bodgar and Badger (S) (T) (8731348), 4.10 Pocket Dragon Adventures (S) (T) (5720926), 4.20 Rugreis (R) (S) (T) (6354029). 4.36 Misery Guts (S) (T) (1964549). 5.00 Newsround (S) (T) (5701278), 5.10 Blue Peter (S) (T) (6634433).

6.00 News| Weether (T) (838)

9.30 Peddington Oraen. This wsak, the four square miles yield up a transeexual who works as a vice girt, and en elderly wig-maker (S) (T) (40182).

10.00 Grave Two Zero. Seen Baan and his SAS comrades struggle to reach the safety of Syria in the final part of this Boys. Own adventure based on Andy MoNab's bast-selling riovel ebout the Gulf War. Apparently it "contains violenca". Funny, that (S) (T) (552948).

8.35 Neighbours. Anne and Amy fall out (S) (T) (591278).

8.30 magezine (T) (891).

10

7.00 This is Your Life. Michael Aspel foists his red book on another unsuspecting individual (S) (T) (9948).

7.30 Wetchdog Heelthcheck. Including e report from Stockholm on why Telefubbles dolls could soon ba taken off the shelves of Swedish toy shope (S) (T) (425)

8.00 EeetEnders. It's basn a hall of a Christmas in Albart Square. Wil the nsw yeer ba eny bettar? (S) (T) (8836)

8.30 Birds of a Feather. More "classic" comsdy, or a repeat, as its otherwise known as, in the very first episode, Bharon end Tracey find out that their husbands have been errested for armed robbery (R) (S) (T) (1471). 9.00 News; Regional News; Weather (T) (8907).

t0.85 Match of the Day (S) (T) (207907)

tri.40 IIIM Hevene (Sydney Pollack 1890 UB). A thoroughly unmamorable romentic adventure set in Batista's Cuba. Gamblar Robert Radford tinds himself caught up in the revolution whan he falle for a local girl (Lena Olin). Redford and Olin are completely mismatchad, and the affair is never convincing

Joins BBC News 24 (75960327). To 6em

1.00 Children's BBC: Romueid the Raindeer (R) (S) (73903162), t.10 The Arts end Crefts Hour (S) (2726704),
 2.10 World Darts (S) (98342549).

6.00 The Simpsons. Marge lands the lead rola in a community thatia production (R) (S) (T) (538075).

6.20 The Gimpeone. More cartoon mayhem as Homer seems to be losing his grip (R) (S) (T) (532891).

8.00 Seet Houte, Jools Holland makes a pligrimage to Chicago to find the last resting place of his booglewoogle harces (S) (T) (7278).

Food and Drink. Kedgeree from Sophia Grigson, comfort food by Antony Worrall Thompson, and spley dishes from James Martin (S) (T) (9013).

8.30

9.30 GIDIGE Longitude. The "Time" season kicks off with the story of clockmaker John Harrison. See Documentary of the Dey, below (S) (T) (277346). 9.00 Red Dwerf. Re-run comedy about the strangest crsw in space (R) (S) (4549).

t0.30 Newsnight. With Jsremy Paxman in London Kirsty Wark in Bertin (T) (219742). 10.20 Clockwatch. Looking at George Daniels, designer of the world's most accurate timapleca (S) (T) (359181).

11.15 World Darte. Highlights of tonight's first-round matches (S) (201097). 12.00 The Phil Silvere Show (S) (31785). To 12.30am.

BBC2

OO Children's 66C: Wiggly Park (S) (9245015). 7.06
Telatubbles (S) (2267452). 7.30 Yogl's Treasure Hunt (R)
(S) (2587839). 7.50 To Me... to You (S) (3122704). 6.20
Taz-Manía (S) (9190704). 6.40 Polke Dot Shorts (S)
(8475669). 8.58 Wiggly Park (S) (8561926). 9.00
Romuald the Raindest (7385742). 910 Tha Phil Silvers
Show (R) (6707549). 8.35 Tha Phil Silvers Show (R)
(5165075). 10.00 Teletubblea (S) (85013).

10.30 IFIM Conepirecy of Hearte (Raiph Thomas 1980 UK). Raiph Thomas, bast known as the director of the Doctor series, dishes up a surprisingly moving wartima drema about Italien nuns trying to rescue Jewish orphans. The strong cast includes Sylvia Syms (85564346).

t2.20 Hot Shote (R) (S) (6211013). 12.30 Working Lunch (89520).

5.30 Cricket – the Ashee. Highlights of the third day of the Fifth Tset (S) (588).

6.45 Hit, Mise or Msybe. Zoë Ball and guests put threa of the latest pop videos to the teet (R) (S) (T) (787029).

7.00 Digite! Plenet. This week the documentary series examinas the possible consequences of electronic attacks on military defence systems (S) (4758).

7.30 Ageinst the Grain. Profile of Oliver Wsiston, e wealthy farmsr who has made himself deeply unpopular by arguing against the farm support system (S) (T) (617)

INITIES The Vice. Hard-htting drame series starting the excellent Ken Stott as a vice-squad inspector. Sea Drenna of the Day, below (S) (T) (2487)

10.00 Newel Weather (1) (59891)

10.30 Neeh Bridgee. Formulaic drama sariee about a San Francisco cop (1) (327100). London Tonight. Regional news (T) (592617).

11.40 **IIII/I Body Heet** (Lawrence Kasdan 1961 US), Kasdan's stylien, steamy directoriel dabut etarring William Hurt and Kathlean Turner (T) (52142566).

Netionwide Footbell Leegue Extre (857330).

3.55 1.45

Trieha (R) (S) (T) (8477840) 4.50 ITV Nightscreen (6622259). 5.30 ITN Morning News (28940). To 6am IIIM brecule (Tod Browning 1931 US), Vintage Fram Stoker horror with Bela Lugosl (4286018).

Children's ITV Mopetop's Shop (T) (2208704). 3.38 Tote TV (R) (S) (875826). 3.45 The Advantures of Captain Pugwash (S) (673582). 4.00 Oggla and the Cockroachae (T) (5580159). 4.20 It's a Mystary (T) (8534079). 4.45 Sabrina, tha Teanaga Witch (S) (T) (1051029).

6.10 Home end Awey. Vinnie bags for forgivanase (S) (T) (6602510). 10 Newe; Weether (T) (116907).

O London Tonight. Regional news update for the capital and the South-East (T) (907).

8.00

30 London Bridge. laobel and Cliff start the new year in custody (S) (87).

7.00 Wish You Were Here...? Anthee Turner visits a holiday villaga in the south of France, while Clao Rocoe takes a Maditerrenean cruisa (S) (T) (8384).

Coronetion Street. Martin makes a shocking discovery ebout Alf, and Kevin wonders if there was anything more to his drunken kiss with Alison (T) (471).

Who Wents to be a Millionelre? Contestants have to answer 15 questions to win £1m; no one did it last time, despita Chris Tarrant's halp (S) (T) (4704).

Cerol Vordermen's Bettar Homes. Carol Vorderman laaps on the home-Improvement bandwagon with a new show (T) (3639).

12.10 [HIDIF] Myetery Trein (Jim Jarmusch 1989 US/Jap). Thrae off-beet storiae cantred on a hotel in Mamphis. Saa *Film of the Day*, below (200476).

4.00 5.15 Piotures at en Exhibition (R) (S) (4618124), 5.55 Sasama Street (4061872). To 7am. IIIM 6ulidos Jeck (Walter Forda 1934 UK). Fast-and-furious Buildos Drummond crime comedy (8240921). Carlton

70 0MTV (6024742), 9.25 Trisha (S) (T) (2366568), 10.25 This Morning (T) (62666339), t2.20 Your Shout (8215839), 12.30 Naws; Weathar (T) (83346), t.00 London Today (T) (79758), 1.30 The Jarry Springar Show (S) (T) (6237094), 2.15 Home and Away (S) (T) (970365), 2.45 Daie's Suparmarket Sweep (S) (T) (979636), 3.15 ITN News Headlinae (T) (2226566), 3.20 London Today (T) (2216181),

5.30 Pet Resoue. More real-lite stories of rescued animals. Ahh (S) (T) (636).

Roseenne. Roseanne is assaulted, obviously by every breve mugger (R) (S) (T) (549).

6.30 Hollyoeks. Sol 's puzzlad by Paul's behaviour, and Lucy finally hears what happened to Rob (S) (T) (28).

7.00 Chennel 4 News Weather. Including headlines et 730pm (S) (T) (708907).

8.00 Wild Tales. It's the dry season in the Kalahari Dasart, and the antelope herde have moved on in search of better grazing. Not ell the mammals have left, though. The insect-eating, bat-eared foxes are still there, and will etsy throughout the year, battling to survive the hostile conditions (T) (7365). 7.55 Cuban Faces. The first of five documentaries celebrating the 40th suniversary of the Cuban revolution (616907).

8.00 Mayday. A cheary new documentary series about safety on the water. If you've booked a crules, you may want to reconsider after this weeks tales of burning crules liners – three from one company alone – and the captain who flicked a vitel switch on one ship, doorning

10.00 EIII White Men Cen't Jump (Ron Shalton 1982 US). Wasley Shipes and Woody Harrelson star as two baskerbsil hustlere who etert off as rivale but decide to taam up to make money and take LA by sform. No great aurprises, but wetchable enough (T) (90463075).

2.to IIIM The Frightened City (John Lemont 1961 UK). Well-mada British gangster tale (585768).

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THE MONDAY REVIEW
The Independent 4 January 1999

6.00 Seeeme Street (32346). 7.00 The 6ig Breakfast (S) (94013), 8.00 The Cosby Show (R) (T) (75566). 9.30 The Cosby Show (R) (T) (40100).

IIIM The I Don't Care Oirl (Lloyd Bacon 1952 US). Enjoyebie musical biography ebout Broadway club ster Eva Tanguay (T) (81605).

(R) (S) (T) (8225100). 7.30 Milkshakel (S) (5902443).
7.35 Wimzle's House (R) (9958013). 6.00 Havekezoo (R) (S) (1396704). 8.30 Dappledown Ferm (1395075).
9.00 HouseBusters (R) (T) (2072487). 8.25 Russell (Grent's Postcarde (R) (4921742). 9.30 The Oprah (Vinfrey Show (8755549). 10.20 Sunset Beach (S) (T) (2353297). 11.10 Leza (R) (S) (2233723). 12.00 5 News et Noon (S) (T) (139891). 12.30 Femily Affeirs (S) (T) (159891). 12.30 Femily Affeirs (S) (T) (159891). 13.0 The Bould and the Beautiful (S) (T) (8224471). 1.30 The Roseanne Show (9164691).
2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (S) (6566891). 2.30 Good Afternoon (S) (4764665).

tt.30 Here's One ! Mede Berlier (R) (S) (T) (3610). t2.00 Sesame Street (58704). t2.30 Bewitched (R) (81968). t.00 Pet Rescus (R) (S) (T) (97100). t.30 [3][M] Uneigned. A short film by Oliver Parker about a painter's Faustien bargain (550:5159).

3.30 Hempton Court Pelece (365). 4.00 Fifteen to One Highlights (R) (S) (T) (100). 4.30 Countdown (S) (T) (1958986). 4.55 Montel Williams (S) (T) (4069346). t.50 INTENT The Spenieh Gardener (Philip Leacock 1956 UK). Dirk Bogarde excels in this dark adaptation of AJ Cronin's novel about a bitter diplomat (61853549).

HIM Corrina, Corrina (Jasale Nelson 1994 US). Romentic Fiftles drema about e widower (Rey Lictta) who takes on a black housekeaper, played by Whoopi Goldbarg: to help look after his young daughter: Custinierracial romenca (T) (9868346).

5.20 Everything You Ever Wanted to Know about Sunsat Beech. An overview of the story so fer in the American soap (T) (6317075).

6.00 100 Per Cent. The game show without a host, and possibly without an audience akher (S) (5446100).

8.30 Family Affaire. Maria discovere that Sarga is one of nina children and is immadiately interseted in him. Er, why? (S) (T) (5437452).

7.00 5 Newe, Including Firet on Five. National and International news with Kirsly Young (S) (T) (6596907)

7.30 Champions of the Wild. A profile of wilding enthusiaet Rick West, a leading authority on tarantulas. Brave man (B) (T) (5433636).

8.00 Weather Front. Kalle Ledgar presents a earlee about the weather, along with meleorology exparts Paul Simons and Chris Thorncroft (S) (6505655).

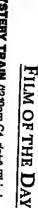
8.30 The Great UFO Conspiracy. Do UFOs exist, or are they merely the result of eating too much chaese? (S) (T) (658462).

9.00 IIIII Under Oath (Days Payne 1896 US), Averaga mada-for-TV thrillar about a pair of crooked policamen who dackda to swindla a suspected weapons dealer. What they don't realise is that the dealer is schually a top

10.48 IIIM Sacond Beat (Chrie Manges 1994 US). It is William Hurt's restrained performance which really makes this gentle drame. He playe a shy, unmarried postmester in Wales who wents to edopt e disturbed young boy whose mother has committed suicide and whose father is in and out of prison (S) (1809013). 10.40 Dr Fox's Chart Update. The Pepsi chart (S) (8767389)

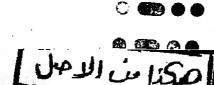
12.45 Live and Dangeroue (S) (5253765), t.25 Live and Dangerous (continued) (S) (43555679), 4.40 Prisoner: Call Block H (3252872), 5.30 100 Per Cent (R) (S) (5902227), To 6am.

TELEVISION GUIDE BY CLAIRE GERVAT



MYSTERY TRAIN (12:10am C4, right) This is what independent film-making is all about: brave, imaginative and, best of all, great fun. Jarmusch's wonderfully quirky trio of stories — seen through the eyes of various foreigners — is set in and around a rundown Memphis hotel that's practically a shrine to Elvis. In "Far from Yokohama", a teenage Japanesa couple argue over rock rivol; "A Ghost" is the story of an italian widow who has come to America to collect her dead husband's ashes; and "Lost in Space" features ex-Clach





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